QUICK ACTION CARDS: AT HOME

READY WHEN IT MATTERS · EUROPEAN EDITION · FREE PRINTABLE

Cut out the cards and keep them where you will see them: on the fridge, by the fuse box, in the grab bag. In an emergency, call 112.

Power cut

1. Check whether neighbours have power too. Is it just you?
2. Check your fuse box. Reset a tripped switch once.
3. Report it to your electricity network (see the Europe Guide).
4. Switch off appliances; leave one light on.
5. Keep fridge and freezer closed.
6. Get out torches, radio and warm layers. Charge nothing unless you need to.
7. Fill water containers in case the supply fails.
8. Check on neighbours who need help.

Water supply cut

1. Stop using water except for drinking.
2. Fill bath, sinks and containers if any water is still coming through.
3. Turn off the heating and boiler if told to.
4. Listen for official advice on bottled water points.
5. Set up the bag toilet and a place to wash hands.
6. If told to "boil water", boil all water for drinking, brushing teeth and preparing food.

Fire

1. Shout "FIRE!" and get everyone out. Do not stop for belongings.
2. Close doors behind you.
3. Keep low under smoke.
4. Call the emergency number from outside.
5. Never go back inside.

Smell of gas

1. No switches, flames or phones indoors.
2. Open doors and windows.
3. Turn off the gas at the meter (not if it is in a cellar or basement).
4. Get everyone out.
5. Call the gas emergency number from outside.

Someone collapses

1. Check it is safe for you.
2. Shout for help. Call the emergency number with the phone on speaker.
3. Not breathing normally? Start CPR: hard and fast in the centre of the chest.
4. Send someone for a defibrillator (AED).
5. Breathing but unconscious? Use the recovery position. Keep checking.
6. Heavy bleeding? Press hard on the wound and keep pressing.

Told to leave home

1. Grab bag, medicines, documents, phone and charger.
2. Turn off utilities if told to.
3. Lock up. Take pets.
4. Leave a note inside the door saying where you are going.
5. Follow the official route.
6. Tell your family contact.

Phones and internet down

1. Try a text instead of a call.
2. Switch on the battery radio.
3. Go to your agreed meeting place at the agreed time.
4. Put your OK or HELP card in the window.
5. In an emergency, go to a fire or police station, hospital or staffed public building.

© 2026 21R6 Editions. Free to print for personal use, not for sale.