

Get ready for tsunamis

How to keep your family and home safe

Easy Read version



 **Tsunamis**



Australian Government

**National Emergency
Management Agency**

How to use this document



We are Get Ready Australia.

We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page 21.



You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website.

getready.gov.au

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What is a tsunami?



A **tsunami** is a huge ocean wave that rushes water over the land near the sea.

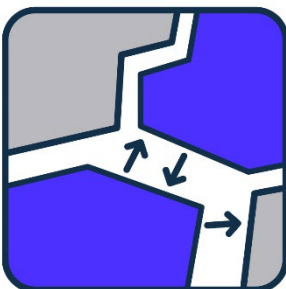


Tsunamis can be an **emergency**.

An emergency is a dangerous situation when people need help straight away to stay safe.



Earthquakes are the most common cause of tsunamis.



An earthquake is when the ground suddenly moves or shakes.

This happens when parts of the earth deep underground move.

Tsunamis can also happen when:



- a volcano erupts



- a **landslide** happens near or in the ocean.

A landslide is when rocks, dirt or mud slide down a hill after heavy rain or shaking



A tsunami wave can:

- travel very fast
- go very far inland.

Signs that a tsunami is coming can include:



- feeling the earth shake



- seeing the ocean drop back from the shore



- hearing a loud and unusual roar sound.

What should you do in a tsunami?



You should leave your home right away if you don't feel safe.



You don't need to wait for someone to tell you to go.



You should go to higher ground or a tall building at least 1km inland.



The higher ground or building should be at least 10m above the normal sea level.

For example, around the height of a 3 storey building.



Try not to get stuck in traffic when you leave.



You should leave by foot if you need to.



You should also make sure you keep up to date on news about the tsunami.



You can find these updates on your state and local government:

- websites
- social media.

Who is at risk of tsunamis?

You are most at risk of tsunamis if you live near a beach in:



- Queensland



- New South Wales



- Western Australia.

You also are more at risk of tsunamis if you are near:



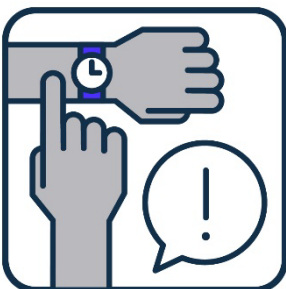
- areas below the sea level



- beaches



- bays and harbours.



The Bureau of Meteorology will warn you if a tsunami is less than 90 minutes away from you.

How do you get ready for a tsunami?



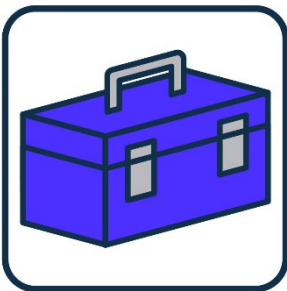
To get ready for a tsunami you should talk to your friends and neighbours.

They might know important information that can help you.

To prepare for a tsunami, you should:



- make an emergency plan



- pack an emergency kit.

Make an emergency plan



An **emergency plan** explains what you will do to stay safe if a tsunami happens.



You should:

- make your plan with people you live with
- write your plan down.



Your plan should include important phone numbers you might need in an emergency.

For example, **emergency services**.



Emergency services help protect people and make them safe in dangerous situations.

For example, the police and firefighters.

Your plan should also include:



- when you will leave



- how you will stay safe when you leave



- where you will go.

Pack your emergency kit



You should have an **emergency kit** ready.

An emergency kit includes important items that can help you:



- stay safe
- leave quickly
- protect yourself and your home.



You should have enough things in your emergency kit to last you for at least 3 days.



This is just in case you must stay home
without power or water.



You should keep your emergency kit in a place that is:

- dry
- easy to get to.



Everyone in your home should know where your emergency kit is.

What to pack in your emergency kit

Your emergency kit should include:



- clothes



- wool blankets.

Your emergency kit should include:



- toiletries – like a toothbrush and hairbrush



- toilet paper



- sunscreen



- hand sanitiser



- medicine and a first aid kit.

Your emergency kit should also include:



- water – at least 3 litres per day for each person



- food that won't go bad quickly – like canned food



- a way to open your food – like a can opener



- a radio that uses batteries



- a torch and extra batteries.

If you need to leave your home, make sure you take your:



- mobile phone and charger



- important documents

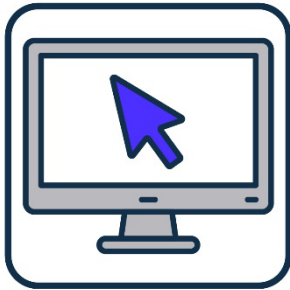


- money and bank cards



- things that are important and mean a lot to you.

Where can you find more information?



You can visit our website to find more information.

getready.gov.au

We can help you:



- learn more about what to do in a tsunami



- learn how to contact emergency services in your state and territory



- get emergency warnings for your area.



You can stay up to date when a tsunami is happening by listening to:

- ABC radio
- SBS radio.

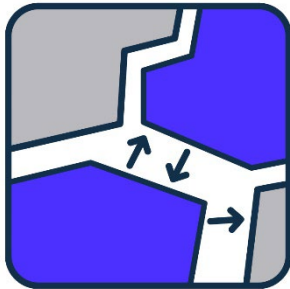


If you speak a language other than English, you can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National).

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Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



Earthquake

An earthquake is when the ground suddenly moves or shakes.

This happens when parts of the earth deep underground move.



Emergency

An emergency is a dangerous situation when people need help straight away to stay safe.



Emergency kit

An emergency kit includes important items that can help you:

- stay safe
- leave quickly
- protect yourself and your home.



Emergency plan

An emergency plan explains what you will do to stay safe if a tsunami happens.



Emergency services

Emergency services help protect people and make them safe in dangerous situations.

For example, the police and firefighters.



Landslide

A landslide is when rocks, dirt or mud slide down a hill after heavy rain or shaking



Tsunami

A tsunami is a huge ocean wave that rushes water over the land near the sea.



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