

ICE OUT FREEZING DAMAGE.

The USAA household checklist for helping to avoid freezing damage.

COMPLETE THIS CHECKLIST ONCE A YEAR TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE YOUR RISK OF FREEZING DAMAGE.

Attic

- Keep the attic well-ventilated. In winter, this means water is less likely to accumulate at the roof's edge
- Keep the attic floor well-insulated to minimize the amount of heat rising from within the house

Roof

- In colder climates, contact your city or county to ask your local building official about minimum code requirements for ice dam protection. (An ice dam is a ridge of ice that can form at the edge of your roof, blocking the drainage of water. When water backs up, it can leak into your home, damaging your ceiling, walls and insulation)
- When it's time to replace your roof, be sure to ask for a water-repellent, sealed roofing material under the roof covering

Water Pipes

- Fit exposed pipes with insulation sleeves or wrapping to slow the transfer of heat. The more insulation the better
- Check outside walls and foundation near pipes, and seal cracks and holes with caulking
- Keep cabinet doors open during cold spells to allow warm air to circulate around the pipes

If you're away for an extended time during cold weather

- Drain the water system to prevent water from freezing in the pipes and bursting them
- Turn the heat down, but don't turn it all the way off

This checklist is not intended to be an exhaustive list of steps to prevent or reduce the severity of a loss. Conducting the steps in this checklist may not eliminate your risk of a loss.



FOR MORE HAZARD PREVENTION TIPS FROM USAA,
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