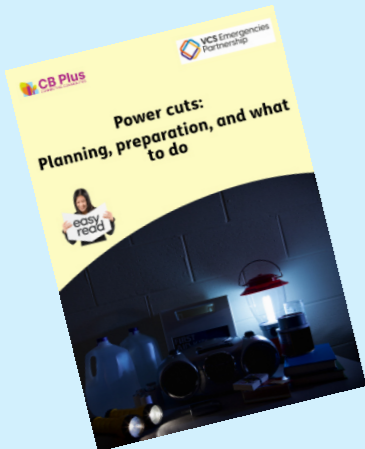


Power cuts: Planning, preparation, and what to do





This booklet will tell you about power cuts.



Lights and other things around the home that need electricity from a plug, like a TV or kettle, will not work during a power cut.



It will tell you how to prepare for a power cut and what to do if one happens.



There are many things that you can do to prepare for a power cut, preparing will make things easier for you if one happens.



Power cuts, sometimes called blackouts, are when the electricity supply to the entire home or area fails.



If you would need help during a power cut, you should sign up to the **Priority Services Register**.



Some power cuts can be planned if the electricity company needs to fix things, but others can be unexpected.



You can do this by contacting your electricity and gas companies and asking to be put on the **Priority Services Register**.



If you are on the register, you will get the extra help you need and get given help sooner if there's a problem with your gas or electric.



By January 2025, most home phones will be switched over to using the internet.

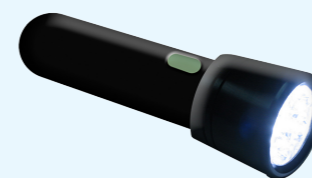


You might need to ask your phone company about a backup battery for power cuts.



If you have been warned about a power cut, you might want to boil some water and keep it in a thermos for later.

Some things that you should have are:



At least one battery powered or wind up torch



Spare batteries
A backup battery for important medical equipment if you have any



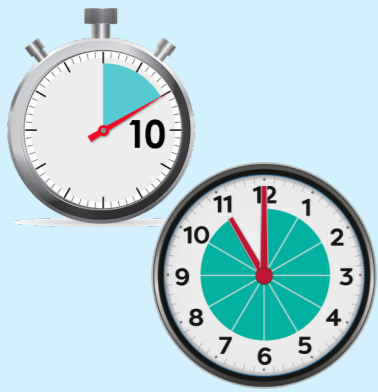
A charged mobile phone and a charged battery pack



Food or drink that you don't need to heat or use electricity to prepare



Warm clothes and a blanket



If there is an unexpected power cut, it could last a few minutes or multiple hours, even overnight.



If the power cut is expected to last a long time, you should keep your fridge and freezer doors closed unless you really need something.

This helps keep things in the fridge cool.



You should turn off things like electric heaters, electric ovens, and hairdryers if they were on when the power went out as you might not be there when they turn back on.



It is important to try to not use candles as these could start a fire.



You should keep 1 light switched on as it will make it easy to tell when the power cut is over, because it will light up has been restored.



If it is daytime, or brighter outside than it is indoors, open your curtains to let the light in.

