

Household Insurance

A Guide to our Household Policy



INSURANCE
CORPORATION

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Introduction

Insurance Corporation's household policy provides a wide range of essential protection for your home, its contents and your personal possessions. In addition, insurance is available to protect you from legal liability you may incur in a personal and private capacity to pay damages to third parties and domestic employees for injury and damage which may be caused.

Loss or damage to your home by fire, storm, explosion, subsidence, theft and a range of other causes can have disastrous results and our policy is designed to help you overcome the consequences. Cover for buildings and contents includes a provision for the cost of finding temporary alternative accommodation should your home become uninhabitable due to an insured cause.

Setting sums insured correctly and selecting the right level of cover are essential to ensure that your policy provides the protection you need. An insurance broker or other professional intermediary can provide valuable guidance.

Full details of the insurances which can be provided are described in our policy wording and a specimen copy is available on request, but here is a brief summary of the features of our household policy.

Buildings Cover

Standard buildings cover protects all your buildings (including garages, greenhouses, outbuildings, patios, drives, hedges and much more) against causes of damage such as

- Fire, lightning, explosion, earthquake or smoke
- Storm or flood
- Riot or civil commotion, malicious acts or vandalism
- Theft
- Subsidence
- Falling trees
- Breakage of fixed glass and sanitary ware
- Accidental damage to cables and underground tanks that are used to provide services to or from your home.

Also, up to a maximum of 25% of your buildings sum insured is payable for short term accommodation and rent, should you need to move out of your home whilst it is being repaired as a result of damage covered by your policy.

You can select cover with accidental damage. Accidental damage insures you for damage caused accidentally, for example drilling through a pipe or putting your foot through the ceiling from an attic.

- As owner of the property you will be provided with up to £2 million public liability insurance.

Contents Cover

Standard contents cover protects all your contents (including household goods, high risk items, personal possessions, personal belongings, clerical business equipment and much more against causes of damage such as

- Fire, lightning, explosion, earthquake or smoke
- Storm or flood
- Riot or civil commotion, malicious acts or vandalism
- Theft
- Subsidence
- Falling Trees
- Accidental damage to TV's satellite, video, audio equipment and computer equipment while in your home
- Breakage of mirrors and glass in furniture

Contents cover also extends to include

- Food in your freezer – the loss of food if your freezer breaks down
- Replacement of locks – to replace locks if your keys are stolen
- Contents in your garden, including any motorised garden equipment
- Gifts and or wedding gifts – during December and for one month before and one month after the wedding of a member of your household – up to 20% increase on your contents sum insured.
- Legal liabilities – cover for your legal liability as occupier for injury to other people or damage to their property and personal liability cover for you and members of your household – up to £2 million.
- Deeds and title documents or recreating title deeds or documents lost through an insured event from your home or a place of safe keeping such as a bank or advocate's office up to £250.
- Temporary accommodation if you have to leave your home because it is uninhabitable following an insured event – up to 25% of your contents sum insured
- Temporary removal cover is given for contents up to 15% of the contents sum insured whilst temporarily removed from your home (e.g. for cleaning or repair).
- Paying guests – loss of or damage to the belongings of paying guests within your home
- Witness expenses – costs incurred whilst being called as a prosecution witness in a court of law up to £1,000.
- Business equipment – business equipment including computers, as long as the equipment is owned by you or a member of your household (business equipment excludes tools or instruments used for business or professional purposes and also excludes money).

You can select cover with or without additional accidental damage cover. Accidental damage insures you for damage accidentally caused (for example dropping a vase or spilling paint on your carpet). *An advantage of arranging this additional accidental damage insurance is that we then provide you with **automatic cover for personal possessions** whilst away from your home, with an additional sum insured equivalent to 50% of the contents sum insured – up to a maximum of £20,000 in all and a maximum of £2,000 any single item.*

Personal Possessions

Under the personal possessions section, we provide cover for accidental loss of or damage to personal possessions whilst temporarily away from your home anywhere in the Channel Islands or elsewhere in the world for the purposes of travel. This cover is only available when you insure the contents of your home under the same household policy.

If contents are selected **with** additional accidental damage insurance, **automatic cover for personal possessions** is then provided with an additional sum insured equivalent to 50% of the contents sum insured – up to a maximum of £20,000 in all and a maximum of £2,000 any single item. If these limits are not adequate or you do not select accidental damage cover for your contents, details of the personal possessions cover you require must be requested under the personal possessions section.

Personal possessions include

- Clothing and personal effects
- Pedal cycles
- Sports equipment
- Student personal possessions (cover is given up to £2,500 per student, subject to a single item limit of £500 (unless otherwise agreed with us).
- Personal money and credit cards
- Mobile phones and portable computers, including their accessories

We do not cover contact lenses, nor the theft of pedal cycles unless the cycle is in a locked building or has been attached to a permanent fixture and is immobilised by a security device. Theft from unattended road vehicles is excluded other than from a locked luggage boot or luggage or glove compartment following forcible and violent entry to a securely locked vehicle.

Other sections of cover available

Our household policy can be extended to include Small Craft, Caravans and Horses and Ponies. Here are some details:

Small Craft

Provides cover in respect of small craft, surfboard or sailboards not exceeding 16' in length (or in the case of a sailing dinghy 16'6") with a design speed of under 17 knots and with a value not exceeding £2,500. Cover is given whilst ashore anywhere in the Channel Islands or elsewhere in the British Isles, afloat (when not in use) in the Channel Islands, whilst actually in use in the Channel Islands and in European coastal waters, for up to 45 days in any one period, and transit by sea, road or rail.

Caravans

Provides cover in respect of caravans including fixtures, fittings, awnings, furniture and utensils anywhere in the British Isles, elsewhere in Europe for up to 60 days in any one period, and in transit by sea between ports in Europe by a recognised passenger carrying service, provided that the journey does not take longer than 65 hours under normal conditions. Additional cover is provided for recovery and redelivery, loss of use and salvage charges.

Horses and Ponies

Provides cover for horses or ponies used for private hacking, gymkhanas, pony club events and show jumping, for death, permanent inability to perform the duties for which it is kept, veterinary fees resulting from illness, and loss by theft or straying. The cover also extends to include cover for equipment and horseboxes.

Inflation Protection Index Linking

To combat inflation, the sums insured on the buildings, contents and personal possessions sections of this household policy will be automatically increased in accordance with the relevant Index prepared independently by the appropriate government or professional body.

For buildings, your sums insured must represent the full cost of rebuilding in their present form and you have maintained them in good repair.

It is essential, however that sums insured are set correctly at the beginning of each period of insurance to ensure that average does not apply (see below)

Sums insured should reflect the basis upon which you expect claims to be settled (as described in the policy).

Buildings should be insured for the full cost of replacement, including the cost of debris removal, public authorities' requirements and professional fees. Contents should be insured for the cost of replacing items as new and similar consideration should be given for items covered under the personal possessions section (unless the automatic cover provision given with Accidental Damage option is adequate).

Sums Insured and Average

To help you to calculate your building and contents sums insured, please ask your broker for our “What Sum Insured” guide.

Sums insured must be adequate to ensure your policy operates correctly.

If sums insured are not adequate, average may apply and if so the amount we pay in the event of a claim will be proportionately reduced.

Please remember to regularly review your sums insured to the correct level. You will need to update your sums insured, particularly if, for example, you build an extension to your home, or acquire contents items which increase the total replacement cost.

What is not covered under the whole policy

Like all insurance policies, our Household Policy has limitations and exclusions – here are some examples:

- **Unoccupancy** – Loss or damage caused whilst your property is left unoccupied for more than 30 days. We will extend this 30 day exclusion to 60 days if the simple precautions detailed on page 41 of our household policy are complied with.
- **Fraud** – if any claim is in any way fraudulent or if fraudulent means or devices are used by you or anyone acting on your behalf to obtain any benefit or if any damage be occasioned by the wilful act or with the connivance of you, all benefits shall be forfeited.
- **Wear and tear or any gradually operating cause**
- **Climatic conditions** – loss or damage directly occasioned by frost (except or damage resulting from the escape of water from any fixed water installation) or sudden changes of temperature.
- **Any excess** (an excess is the first part of any claim which is borne by the policyholder). The amount of the applicable excess is described in the policy.
- **Terrorism** – loss or damage arising from a terrorist incident involving nuclear chemical or biological causes

Please remember that the policy is not a maintenance contract and you must tell us of any significant changes you plan to make (e.g. building works).

How much does it cost?

Much less than you think!

Your insurance broker or other professional adviser will tell you the cost of insuring your home or belongings. There is very little paperwork and you can walk out with the protection of Household insurance behind you.

Pay Monthly for Household Insurance (the easy and convenient way)

The easy way to pay your premiums is monthly by direct debit through a current bank account. Monthly premiums mean that your policy will continue automatically each year, but of course you can stop your household policy whenever you wish.

Reducing Claims and Keeping Premiums down

Every policyholder can help to keep the cost of premiums down by taking a few precautions which will reduce the number and cost of claims. Please take a few minutes to read our leaflet which contains suggestions and ideas.

About Us

If you would like to know more about Insurance Corporation, please ask your insurance broker or other professional insurance adviser and ask to see our brochure "About Us". You can also visit our website www.insurancecorporation.com. We are a Channel Islands company and have the reputation of being "reassuringly local, remarkably reliable".

ask your broker



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