

## HOW TO SURVIVE A TORNADO

Tornadoes, also known as twisters, are windstorms that create a highly destructive, whirling funnel of air. They cause devastating damage to the areas they hit and happen very quickly, with little warning.

### PREPARATION

The best way to survive a tornado is to be prepared for it. If you live in an area that is prone to tornadoes, keep an eye on the weather by regularly logging onto a weather website, or tuning into TV or radio weather forecasts.

Keep a 'tornado kit' (in a metal box) in your house. The kit should include a mobile phone, a portable radio, first aid supplies, a bell or horn for signalling, and a flashlight. Additional supplies should include food, water and protective clothing. Keep your tornado kit somewhere handy so you can grab it easily if the tornado hits.

### EARLY WARNING

Here are some signs that a twister is heading your way.

- Often you will hear a tornado coming before you see it. Listen out for a sound like a waterfall that turns into a roar as it gets closer. The sound of a tornado has been compared to that of a train or a jet engine.
  - The sky often turns a sickly greenish or greenish-black colour just before a storm hits.
  - It may suddenly start to hail.



- You may notice clouds that are moving very fast, perhaps twisting into a cone shape.
- You might see debris dropping from the sky.

When the tornado arrives, you can expect to see a funnel-shaped cloud that is spinning. Debris, such as dust, branches and leaves will be pulled upwards into the funnel.

### GET INSIDE

The best place to be when a tornado arrives is inside.