

# CONTENTS INSURANCE CHECKLIST

## 1. Decide if you need contents insurance

- Do you have [furniture, appliances, jewellery, clothes or other valuable belongings](#)
- Do you own any [collections](#) of items (DVDs, books, stamps etc)
- Do you live in a [high-risk area](#)?
- Could you afford to replace your items without insurance?

## 2. Choose an insurance provider

- Can you [bundle](#) your contents insurance with your home or other insurance?
- Check that risks likely to happen in your area are covered
- Get at least three quotes to compare (online, in person or via phone)
- Always call up and talk to an insurer if you require more information
- Consider using a broker - they can explain cover options and be your support in the event of a claim
- Consider using an online aggregator site ([Are aggregator sites all equal?](#))

## 3. Make an inventory of your items

- Use an online calculator to log your items (many insurers have free online tools)
- Make a list of *all* of your belongings – big and small
- Go from room to room in your house and list all items so you don't forget anything
- Include furnishings in your list
- Don't forget your clothing and shoes!
- Consider which items you most want to cover if you need to keep premiums low
- Note how much it would cost to replace each item in your inventory
- Keep photos and receipts of your items for proof of ownership in the event of a claim

## 4. Decide on the level of cover you want

- Will you need a policy that covers the total amount of your items?
- Choose whether you need [defined event](#) or [accidental damage](#) cover
- Consider whether you want a [new for old](#) policy
- Do you have [collections](#) you will need to cover?
- Make note of the [limits on valuables](#) and decide if you need extra cover for some items
- Check if your [portable items](#) will be covered when outside your home
- Make note of [excess options](#) and how they affect [premiums](#)

## 6. Buy your insurance

- Decide on the frequency of your payments
- Make note of when your cover starts and how it will renew
- Read the fine print ([What is a PDS and why you need to read it](#))
- Find something you don't like? Cancel within the [cooling off period](#) (usually 30 days)

## 7. Review your policy each year prior to renewal

- Have your circumstances changed? (address, risk area)
- Do you have new belongings or collections not listed on your policy?
- Consider whether some of your items have reduced in value