HOW DO I PROTECT IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS?

Ready.gov says to keep copies of insurance, identification and bank records in a waterproof, portable container, and to store documents electronically or in a safe deposit box. Keep a paper set in your go bag, and a second set somewhere outside your home.

THE STEPS

01 Gather insurance, identification and bank records.

02 Keep copies in a waterproof, portable container.

03 Also store them in a safe deposit box, on an external drive or in the cloud, as Ready.gov suggests.

04 Put a paper set in your go bag.

05 Review the set on a schedule so it stays current.

THE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Insurance policies
- ☐ Photo ID
- ☐ Bank and card records
- ☐ Medical and medication list
- ☐ Pet records
- ☐ Deed, lease or vehicle title

Sources: Ready.gov, Build a Kit; Ready.gov, Financial Preparedness; Ready.gov, Make a Plan. Last reviewed November 17, 2026. General planning information, not medical, legal or financial advice.