

FALLOUT SHELTER KIT CHECKLIST

A packing checklist for the spot where you would shelter from fallout, based on Ready.gov's kit list and radiation guidance.

■ TIP

Store the kit in the spot where you would shelter (a basement or the center of the building), so you do not have to gather it during the first hour. Plan to shelter at least 24 hours, and stock for several days. ^{[1][3]}

HOW MUCH WATER ^{[1][2]}

1 gallon per person per day, for drinking and sanitation. For 3 days:

PEOPLE	GALLONS
1	3
2	6
4	12

WHAT TO STOCK ^{[1][2][3][4]}

WATER AND FOOD

- ☐ Water, 1 gallon per person per day, several days
- ☐ Water storage containers
- ☐ Several days of non-perishable food
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Pet food and extra water for pets
- ☐ Infant formula, bottles, and diapers, if needed

INFORMATION AND LIGHT

- ☐ Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- ☐ Flashlight or headlamp
- ☐ Extra batteries in the sizes your lights take

- ☐ Phone charger and backup battery

HEALTH AND PROTECTION

- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Prescription medicines
- ☐ Eyeglasses and contact lens solution
- ☐ Dust masks (N95 respirators)
- ☐ Moist towelettes and soap

CONTAMINATION AND SANITATION

- ☐ Spare change of clothes for each person
- ☐ Trash bags for contaminated clothing
- ☐ Garbage bags and plastic ties for sanitation
- ☐ Bucket toilet to line with bags

SHELTER AND TOOLS

- ☐ Plastic sheeting
- ☐ Duct tape and scissors
- ☐ Wrench, pliers, or shutoff tool for gas and water
- ☐ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- ☐ Whistle to signal for help

PAPERS AND OTHER

- ☐ Copies of important documents
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Local maps
- ☐ Paper, pencil, and activities for children

Potassium iodide is not on this list. Read the potassium iodide sheet before you buy any.

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911. INSTRUCTIONS FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS COME FIRST.

Sources: [1] Ready.gov, Build a Kit (ready.gov). [2] Ready.gov, Water (ready.gov). [3] Ready.gov, Radiation Emergencies (Nuclear Explosion) (ready.gov). [4] CDC, What to Do: Stay Tuned (cdc.gov). **Reviewed** October 30, 2026.