



**National
Flood
School**
Established 1988

National Flood School Launches SOS Guide To Help Householders Clean Up After Water Damage

This guide has been developed to help householders limit damage to their home in the event of a flood or leak in their property.

There are lots of things householders can do to help dry their property out, but there are also things that should be left in the hands of professional restorers.

You can take immediate action by;

- Turning off fuses to low-level sockets that may be affected by moisture.
- Washing any non-absorbent items, such as glassware, fully glazed ceramics, pots and pans in hot soapy water. These should not require specialist restoration.
- Bear in mind the longer any standing water is left, the more damage it can cause. If it is safe to do so, remove the standing water by brushing, or with towels, as this may reduce damage to flooring and walls.
- Many affected valuable and/or sentimental items, such as photos, documents, books, jewellery and artwork that might appear beyond repair can be rescued, but this is generally a job for specialist restorers. As quickly as possible, put these in an unaffected area for technicians to inspect. Valuable documents for potential restoration should be wrapped in polythene and frozen to halt deterioration.
- Any furniture that could be affected, or any porous or delicate fabrics, should be lifted. Where possible, to prevent further damage, do not put water-damaged items on top of unaffected items as this can cause further problems including possible staining or scratching.
- Open windows and doors if safe to do so to encourage evaporation and use the clean fresh air to assist the drying of the property.
- Ensure a highly-skilled restoration professional is appointed to continue the clean-up works. The National Flood School has recently introduced a new Contractor Endorsement scheme to help signpost consumers to a trusted network of professional flood restoration professionals.

Watch a video about flood damage clean-up on the National Flood School's own YouTube channel www.youtube.com/nationalfloodschool

More details can be found at www.nationalfloodschool.co.uk or by calling their information team on 01252 821185.