

## **First 10 Minutes Emergency Checklist**

*(What to do immediately when the power goes out)*

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### **1. Safety Sweep (2 minutes)**

- ☐ Smell for gas
  - ☐ Listen for carbon monoxide alarm
  - ☐ Look for downed power lines or fire hazards
  - ☐ Check for flooding, broken pipes, or tree damage
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### **2. Basic Communications (1 minute)**

- ☐ Send group text to family or neighbors
  - ☐ Check if outage is just your home or widespread
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### **3. Electrical Safety (1 minute)**

- ☐ Unplug major appliances (TV, computer, AC, etc.)
  - ☐ Leave one light on to monitor power return
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### **4. Emergency Kit & Lighting (2 minutes)**

- ☐ Grab flashlights/headlamps (avoid candles)
  - ☐ Locate emergency supplies
  - ☐ Check batteries, phone chargers, radio
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### **5. Fridge & Water Plan (2 minutes)**

- ☐ Keep refrigerator and freezer closed
  - ☐ Fill bathtub or containers with water (if on a well)
  - ☐ Check freezer thermometer (above 40°F = toss perishables)
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### **6. Assign Family Roles (2 minutes)**

-  Adult 1: Outside check (hazards, damage)
  -  Adult 2: Set up supplies and lighting
  -  Older kids: Help with pets, comfort younger ones
  -  Younger kids: Stay safe, help where they can
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**Tip:** Print and post this near your fridge, inside a cabinet, or with your emergency kit.