

What's UP with Renters Insurance?

Basic renters insurance covers your "stuff" from theft, fire and, in some cases, sudden water damage, but not flood damage. They also covers moving costs and temporary housing if your home becomes uninhabitable.

What you should know:

- Renters insurance may be cheaper than you think.
- Your landlord's insurance policy will **NOT** cover your belongings if they are damaged, destroyed or stolen.
- Most renters policies *exclude* coverage for flood damage, you can buy that coverage separately.
- If an accident happens - like a kitchen fire, or someone hurts themselves at your party - renters insurance can cover medical and legal costs.
- If you want protections from flood and earthquake damage, home business equipment, art jewelry or other high value items, you will need to customize your insurance.

Questions to ask:

- Will this policy cover the "replacement cost value" of my property if it gets damaged or destroyed?
- How much will it cost to add flood insurance?
- For how long will my temporary rent be covered if I have to move out after a fire or other loss?
- Is there a dollar limit on temporary rent coverage?
- What are the coverage limits in this policy on specific items such as electronics, jewelry, art, etc...?
- Will this policy cover all of the residents of my household even if we are not legally related?
- What is a deductible and how much will the cost go down if I choose a higher deductible?

Take pictures or a video of your belongings and save them in a safe place. Having an inventory makes a big difference at claim time. For more preparedness tips, visit: www.uphelp.org