



Remember, if you're renovating your home, now is the perfect time to ask your contractor to tackle some or all of the seven major improvements you can make to strengthen your home against hurricanes. This will not only make you safer and reduce future loses, but it will also help you realize savings on your wind insurance premium.



To learn about savings on your wind insurance premium based on improvements to your home, contact your insurance company. You can also get information on insurance savings through www.FloridaDisaster.org. Click on the "Strengthen Your Home" link to access information about insurance savings. Look for this icon:



To learn more about remodeling your home with hurricane-resistant features, please visit

www.FloridaDisaster.org
and look for the
"Strengthen Your Home" icon.



Call the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes
– FLASH®, Inc at
877-221-SAFE (7233)
for more information.



Planning to remodel?

There's no better time to strengthen your home against hurricanes....

...and to save on your homeowners insurance.



**Are you planning on building an addition?
Replacing windows?
Maybe you're replacing an old roof?**

Whatever your renovation plans are, now is the perfect time to renovate using hurricane-resistant technologies. Doing so will not only strengthen your home against hurricanes, but it can also help you realize savings on your homeowners wind insurance premium.

There are seven basic improvements you can perform that will strengthen all major areas of your home. These include:

1. Strengthening your roof deck attachment

For example, if your roof consists of shingles nailed to plywood sheets, the plywood sheets may not be adequately nailed to your roof trusses. In these cases, additional nails and/or longer nails need to be added to reduce the possibility of the plywood from being blown off in a hurricane.



2. Creating a secondary water barrier to prevent water intrusion

Using strips of “peel and stick” material that cover the joints between the plywood sheets on your roof can help reduce leakage until repairs can be made if a hurricane blows off your roof shingles.



3. Improving the survivability of your roof covering

Upgrading your roof covering to wind-resistant roof shingles, attached with properly sized and properly applied roofing nails, can reduce the chance that your shingles will get blown off in a hurricane.



4. Bracing gable-end walls

This improvement is made inside your attic to decrease chances that gable end walls will fail under hurricane wind loads.



5. Reinforcing roof-to-wall connections

Installing metal tie-down clips that attach roof rafters to walls will decrease chances that all or a portion of your roof will simply lift off your house during a hurricane.



6. Installing Opening Protection

You can protect your home's openings, such as windows and doors, from windborne debris by installing impact-resistant windows and doors or installing impact-resistant coverings, such as shutters, over windows and doors. Impact-resistant glass and shutters are specifically designed to protect against a combination of impact and continuous pressure from wind.



Equally important as the strength of the glass or shutter is the strength of the window's frame

and attachment hardware. Impact-resistant units are tested as a unit that includes the glass, the frame, as well as the attachment hardware and the installation method. Impact-resistant windows and shutters should always be installed following manufacturer's recommendations.

7. Strengthening Garage Doors

Garage doors are particularly vulnerable to high winds because of the long span of opening they cover and the relatively lightweight material from which they are made. Two options are available for strengthening garage doors:

- *Replace the door and track with a system designed to withstand high winds and windborne debris, or,*
- *Protect the garage door with a tested and approved impact-resistant covering.*

