

## Insured Events

[Product Disclosure Statement and Home & Contents Insurance Policy](#)



This Policy is underwritten by QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited  
ABN 78 003 191 035 of 82 Pitt Street, Sydney.

QM113

POLICY





## HOME & CONTENTS

### INSURED EVENTS POLICY

#### About this booklet

This booklet contains a Product Disclosure Statement (PDS). The PDS is designed to assist you to make informed choices about your insurance needs. The PDS contains information about costs, our dispute resolution system, your cooling off rights and other relevant information, including other rights, terms, conditions, exclusions and obligations attaching to this product. Please read this booklet carefully.

Other documents may form part of the PDS. Any such documents will be dated and will include a statement identifying them as part of the PDS. If any major omissions, updates or corrections need to be made to the PDS a Supplementary PDS may be provided. In either case the relevant document will be provided to you with the PDS.

#### Our agreement with you

This Policy Terms and Conditions and the Policy Schedule form the legal contract between you and us. You pay us the premium, and we provide you with the cover you have chosen as set out in the Policy, during the period of insurance shown on your Policy Schedule or any renewal period. Please keep them in a safe place for future reference.

The exclusions in the section(s) headed “When you are not covered” and conditions in the section headed “General conditions” apply to all types of cover.

The excesses set out in the section headed “What you must pay if you make a claim – Excess” apply to all claims except where otherwise stated. The amount of any excess that applies to your Policy will be shown on your Policy Schedule.

If you require further information about this product, please contact your Financial Services Provider.

## About QBE Australia

QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited is a member of the QBE Insurance Group (ASX: QBE). QBE Insurance Group is Australia's largest international general insurance and reinsurance group, and one of the top 25 insurers and reinsurers worldwide. The company has been operating in Australia since 1886 and continues to provide industry-leading insurance solutions that are focused on the needs of intermediaries and their clients.

QBE is a household name in Australian insurance, backed by sizeable assets, and well known as a strong and financially secure organisation.

## Insurer

The Policy is underwritten by QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited, ABN 78 003 191 035, AFS Licence No. 239545 of 82 Pitt Street, Sydney.

The address and telephone number of your QBE branch is on your Policy Schedule.

You should keep your Policy Booklet and Policy Schedule together in a safe and convenient place for future reference.

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## Significant risks

### Your sum insured may not be adequate

The Policy provides replacement or reinstatement conditions for home and contents which means that claims are settled without contribution for age, depreciation or wear and tear. It is important that the sums insured you select cover the cost of replacing your home and contents on a new for old basis. The sums insured that you select must make allowance for structural improvements (such as sheds, pergolas, and fencing), GST and any Additional benefits that are included in the sum insured such as removal of debris. It is recommended that you use the free, sum insured calculator, available on our website to determine your building sum insured.

It is important that you read the sublimits in the Terms and Conditions for items such as works of art, items of jewellery and collections. If you have any of these items that will cost more than the sublimit to replace, then you will need to nominate them to ensure that they are covered for more than the sublimit.

For example, there is a sublimit on jewellery of \$2,500 per item, and in total, 25% of the unspecified contents sum insured. If it would cost more than this to replace your jewellery as new, then you must specify your jewellery item(s) to ensure that you are covered for your jewellery's full value.

### A claim may be refused

We may refuse to pay or reduce the amount we pay under a claim if you do not comply with the Policy conditions, if you do not comply with your Duty of Disclosure, or if you make a fraudulent claim.

## The cost of this insurance Policy

The total premium is the amount we charge you for this insurance Policy. It includes the amount which we have calculated will cover the risk, and any taxes and Government charges. The premium and any taxes and Government charges will be shown on your Policy Schedule.

When calculating your premium we take a range of rating factors into account. These factors, and the degree to which they affect your premium, will depend upon the information you provide to us.

Some factors that impact the calculation of your premium include;

where the home or contents are located, the sum insured and your previous insurance and claims history

## Duty of Disclosure – what you must tell us

Under the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (the Act), you have a Duty of Disclosure. The Act requires that before a Policy is entered into, you must give us certain information we need to decide whether to insure you and anyone else to be insured under the Policy, and on what terms. Your Duty of Disclosure is different, depending on whether this is a new Policy or not.

### New business

Where you are entering into this Policy for the first time (that is, it is new business and is not being renewed, varied, extended or reinstated) you must tell us everything you know and that a reasonable person in the circumstances could be expected to tell us, in answer to the specific questions we ask.

When answering our questions you must be honest.

- **Who needs to tell us**

It is important that you understand you are answering our questions in this way for yourself and anyone else whom you want to be covered by the Policy.

- **If you do not tell us**

If you do not answer our questions in this way, we may reduce or refuse to pay a claim, or cancel the Policy. If you answer our questions fraudulently, we may refuse to pay a claim and treat the Policy as never having worked.

### Renewals, variations, extensions and reinstatements

Once your Policy is entered into and is no longer new business then your duty to us changes. You are required before you renew, vary, extend or reinstate your Policy, to tell us everything you know and that a reasonable person in the circumstances could be expected to know, is a matter that is relevant to our decision whether to insure you, and anyone else to be insured under the Policy, and if so, on what terms.

- **You do not have to tell us about any matter**

- that diminishes the risk
- that is of common knowledge
- that we know or should know in the ordinary course of our business as an insurer, or
- which we indicate we do not want to know.

- **If you do not tell us**

If you do not comply with your Duty of Disclosure we may reduce or refuse to pay a claim or cancel your Policy. If your non-disclosure is fraudulent we may treat this Policy as never having worked.

## Privacy

Privacy legislation regulates the way private sector organisations can collect, use, keep secure and disclose personal information. We are bound by the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth.), when collecting and handling your personal information. We have developed a Privacy Policy which explains what sort of personal information we hold about you and what we do with it.

We will only collect personal information from or about you for the purpose of assessing your application for insurance and administering your insurance Policy, including any claims you make. We will only use and disclose your personal information for a purpose you would reasonably expect.

We may need to disclose personal information to our reinsurers, (who may be located overseas), insurance intermediaries, insurance reference bureaux, credit reference agencies, our advisers and those involved in the claims handling process (including assessors and investigators), for the purposes of assisting us and them in providing relevant services and products, or for the purposes of litigation. We may disclose personal information to people listed as co-insured on your Policy and to family members or agents authorised by you. We may also disclose information to organisations which conduct customer service surveys on our behalf. We will request your consent to any other purpose.

By providing your personal information to us, you consent to us making these disclosures. Without your personal information we may not be able to issue insurance cover to you or process your claim.

You also have the opportunity to find out what personal information we hold about you and, when necessary, correct any errors in this information. Generally we will do this without restriction or charge. For further information about our Privacy Policy or to access or correct your personal information, please contact The Compliance Manager, QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited, GPO Box 82 Sydney NSW 2001. Telephone: (02) 9375-4656, Fax: (02) 8275-9022 or Email: [compliance.manager@qbe.com](mailto:compliance.manager@qbe.com).

## The General Insurance Code of Practice

QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited is a signatory to the General Insurance Code of Practice. The Code aims to:

- promote more informed relations between insurers and their customers;
- improve consumer confidence in the general insurance industry;
- provide better mechanisms for the resolution of complaints and disputes between insurers and their customers; and
- commit insurers and the professionals they rely upon to higher standards of customer service.

## How to make a claim

Please contact your appointed Financial Services Provider to make a claim. We will only accept responsibility for repairs or payments to third parties under a claim where you have told us about them beforehand and we have accepted your claim. Full details of what you must do for us to consider your claim are provided in the "Claims" section at the end of this booklet.

In an emergency outside normal business hours you may ring our emergency service on 1800 023387 for assistance.

## Dispute resolution

We will do everything possible to provide a quality service to you. However, we recognise that occasionally there may be some aspect of our service or a decision we have made that you wish to query or draw to our attention.

We have a Complaints and Dispute Resolution Procedure which undertakes to provide an answer to your complaint within 15 working days.

If you would like to make a complaint or access our internal dispute resolution service please contact our nearest QBE office and ask to speak to a dispute resolution specialist.

If you are not happy with our answer, or we have taken more than 15 working days to respond, you may take your complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS), an ASIC-approved external dispute resolution body.

The FOS resolves certain insurance disputes between consumers and insurers and will provide an independent review at no cost to you. We are bound by the determination of the FOS but the determination is not binding on you.

We will provide the contact telephone number and address of the FOS office upon request.

## Canceling your Policy

### How you may cancel this Policy

- You may cancel this Policy at any time by telling us in writing that you want to cancel it. You can do this by giving the notice to your Financial Services Provider.
- Where “you” involves more than one person, we will only cancel the Policy when a written agreement to cancel the Policy is received from all persons named as the insured.

### How we may cancel this Policy

- We may cancel this Policy in any of the circumstances permitted by law by informing you in writing.
- We will give you this notice in person or send it to your address last known to us.

### The premium

We will refund to you the proportion of the premium for the remaining period of insurance.

### Cooling-off information

If you want to return your insurance after your decision to buy it, you may cancel it and receive a full refund. To do this you may notify your Financial Services Provider electronically or in writing within 21 days from the date the Policy commenced.

This cooling off right does not apply if you have made or are entitled to make a claim. Even after the cooling off period ends, you still have cancellation rights however your Financial Services Provider may deduct certain amounts from any refund for administration costs or any non-refundable taxes.

### Providing proof

So that your claim can be assessed quickly you should keep the following:

- receipts or other confirmation of purchase, and
- valuations
- photographs of items in the home.

We may ask you for these if you make a claim. You must be able to prove to us that you have suffered a loss that is covered by this Policy before we will pay you for it.

## Other party's interests

You must tell us of the interests of all parties (e.g. financiers, owners, lessors) who will be covered by this insurance. We will protect their interests only if you have told us about them and we have noted them on your Policy Schedule.

## How you can pay your premium

You can pay your premium:

- in one annual payment to your appointed Financial Services Provider according to their business practices, or
- in monthly instalments by direct debit from your credit card or from your account with your financial institution which facility can be arranged by your Financial Services Provider

### Overdue premium

You must pay your premium on time otherwise your Policy may not operate.

### Paying your annual premium

You must pay your annual premium by the due date to your Financial Services Provider. If your premium is unpaid by this date or your payment is dishonoured this Policy will not operate and there will be no cover.

### Paying your instalment premium

If you are paying your premium for the first time by instalments we will deduct instalments each month on the day of the month that you nominate as your payment date.

If you are renewing your Policy and you paid your previous Policy by instalments, we will continue to deduct instalments for your renewed Policy on the day of the month you previously nominated as your payment date, unless you tell us otherwise.

If you have nominated the 29th, 30th or 31st of the month as your payment date, we will deduct your instalment payment on the next day if those dates don't occur in a month.

Details of your instalments are shown on your Policy Schedule.

If your first instalment of premium when you take out your Policy or renew it is dishonoured, this Policy will not operate and there will be no cover.

We will not pay a claim under this Policy if, at the time the claim occurred, any instalment of premium has remained unpaid for 14 days or more.

If any instalment of premium has remained unpaid for 1 month, we may cancel this Policy. We will send you a notice giving you details of the action we intend to take and when any cancellation will become effective.

We are entitled to deduct from any amount we pay you under a claim any unpaid premium or instalment of premium.

If you are paying your premium in instalments by direct debit from your credit card or financial institution account, you must tell us if those details change. You must do this no later than 7 days before your next instalment is due.

### Preventing our right of recovery

If you have agreed not to seek compensation from another person who is liable to compensate you for any loss, damage or liability which is covered by this Policy, we will not cover you under this Policy for that loss, damage or liability.

### Words with special meanings

Some key words and terms used in this Policy have a special meaning.

If words and terms are only used in one Section of the Policy, we will describe their special meaning in that Section.

Wherever the following words or terms are used in the Policy, they mean what is set out below:

Word or Expression	Meaning
Excess	the first amount of any claim, which is your responsibility to contribute. We deduct the Excess shown in the Policy Schedule or PDS from the amount of your claim. When a sublimit is applicable, the Excess will be applied to the claim prior to applying the sublimit.
Flood	the inundation of normally dry land by water from any watercourse, lake, canal, dam or reservoir. This Policy does not insure flood.
Negotiables	treasury notes, savings certificates, stamps, money orders, gift certificates and any other negotiable instruments.

Word or Expression	Meaning
Occupied	the home is furnished such that it is comfortably habitable and you, your family or someone with your consent has resided in the home overnight. To be occupied the home must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contain at least one usable bed/ mattress</li> <li>• contain at least one dining table or bench, a chair and some other furniture</li> <li>• contain a functioning refrigerator</li> <li>• be connected to the electricity supply, and</li> <li>• be connected to hot and cold running water.</li> </ul>
Open air	is restricted to the site and includes non lockable structures and non lockable parts of the home. It also means in or on a motor vehicle, motor cycle, trailer or caravan, at the site whether those vehicles are locked or not, unless the vehicle is in a fully enclosed, locked, private, structure; for example your own garage to which no-one else has access.
Period of insurance	The period shown in the current Policy Schedule.
Policy Schedule	the document we give you which sets out the details of your cover which are personal to you. It forms part of the Policy. It shows the cover and any options that you have selected. When your Policy is changed or renewed, we will give you a new Policy Schedule. The information on your Policy Schedule can modify the terms set out in this Policy.
Site	The address shown on your Policy Schedule where your home is located or your contents are kept.
We, our, us	QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited, ABN 78 003 191 035
Your family	any member of your family who lives permanently with you, including your partner.
You, your	the person(s), companies or firms named on the current Policy Schedule as the "Insured".

## Section 1: What “Home” and “Contents” mean

### Home

Your Policy Schedule indicates whether your home is insured and the sum insured.

#### What “home” means

Your “home” is the dwelling used entirely or primarily as a place of residence at the site shown on your Policy Schedule.

“Home” includes the following:

- (a) outbuildings, fixtures and structural improvements including in-ground swimming pools, tennis courts, in-ground spas, saunas, jetties and pontoons all of which are used for domestic purposes
- (b) fixed light fittings, fixed wall coverings, fixed ceiling coverings and fixed floor coverings
- (c) services (whether underground or not) that are your property or which you are liable to repair or replace or pay the cost of their repair or replacement
- (d) landscaping, paved pathways and paved driveways, retaining walls, fences and gates entirely or partly on the site.

#### What “home” does not mean

##### “Home” does not include:

- (a) carpets (whether fixed or not), curtains or internal blinds unless you regularly lease out the home on an unfurnished basis
- (b) earth or gravel pathways or driveways or other unpaved surfaces
- (c)
  - a hotel, motel, nursing home or boarding house
  - buildings of flats or caravan (whether fixed to the site or not), unless this is expressly endorsed on your Policy Schedule
  - strata title, company title or community units with respect to insuring the building, however we will insure contents contained within these units
- (d) any building used for any business or trade, except a dwelling used principally as a place of residence that also contains an office or surgery
- (e) a building in the course of construction
- (f) a building in the course of being demolished, or that is vacant pending demolition
- (g) a temporary building or structure
- (h) trees, shrubs and any other plant life including grass or lawns, or soil, sand, gravel, bark or mulch.

## Contents

Your Policy Schedule indicates whether your contents are insured and the sums insured.

The total contents sum insured consists of:

- a sum insured for unspecified contents, and
- a sum insured for specified contents.

Specified contents are items of particular value that you have individually listed as specified items and that are listed on the Policy Schedule under “Contents, specified items”.

#### What “contents” means

“Contents” means, items (a) to (g) below, while they are at the site, and which belong to you or your family or for whose loss or damage you or your family are legally liable.

Contents are:

- (a) all household goods (including carpets whether fixed or not), personal effects, cash, coins and negotiables.
- (b) articles of special value which you have listed on the Policy Schedule under “Contents specified items”
- (c) if you live in a strata title building, the internal paintwork, wallpaper and any fixture or structural improvement within or attached to that residence which the Body Corporate is not required by law to insure
- (d) if you are a tenant, landlord’s fixtures and fittings for which you are legally liable and fixtures and fittings installed by you for your own use
- (e) any of the following equipment if it does not require registration:
  - golf buggies
  - motorcycles up to 125cc engine capacity
  - garden equipment, or
  - motorised wheelchairs
- (f) canoes, kayaks, surfboards, surfskis or sailboards, and any other watercraft up to:
  - 4 metres in length, and
  - 10 horsepower

This means that if the watercraft is not a canoe, kayak, surfboard, surf-ski or sailboard and it is either longer than 4 metres, or, is powered by a motor or engine that is greater than 10 horsepower, it is not covered.

A watercraft motor:

- no more than 10 horsepower, and
- not attached to a watercraft
- at the site

will be treated by us as a watercraft accessory. If it is over 10 horsepower, it is not covered by this Policy.

- (g) furniture and equipment of an office or surgery used by you or your family in your own business in the home and tools and equipment used for earning income by you or your family.

### What “contents” does not mean

“Contents” does not include:

- (a) fish, birds or animals of any description
- (b) trees, shrubs and any other plant life including grass or lawns, or soil, bark or mulch (other than pot plants)
- (c) any caravan or trailer
- (d) motorised vehicles other than those listed in point (e) under the heading “What contents means”
- (e) watercraft other than those listed in point (f) under the heading “What contents means”
- (f) aircraft or their accessories (other than a non-pilotable model aircraft)
- (g) accessories or spare parts, keys or remote locking or alarm devices of motor vehicles (including motorcycles and motor scooters), caravans, trailers, aircraft or watercraft while they are in or on the motor vehicle, caravan, trailer, aircraft or watercraft
- (h) photographic and video equipment and musical instruments or musical equipment used for earning any income
- (i) any property:
  - illegally in your possession
  - stored in a dangerous and illegal way, or
  - any equipment connected with growing or creating any illegal substance
- (j) commercial or retail trade stock other than business stock temporarily stored inside the home for a maximum period of 30 days
- (k) your home or any part of your home.

## Section 2: Cover for your Home & Contents – Insured events

### What you are insured against, and what you are NOT

You are insured for loss or damage to your home, contents or both, caused directly by any of the “Insured events” which occur at the site set out in the left column of the following table (except to the extent indicated in the right column of the table). Whether you have selected cover for your home, contents or both is shown on your Policy Schedule.

There are also some limits and exclusions described under “How we will pay” and “When you are not covered”, which you must read.

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
(a) Fire, smoke or explosion	Loss or damage to any item caused by scorching, melting, or charring without flames.  Any damage that is gradual or recurring, for example, from a fireplace.
(b) Storm (including cyclone or hurricane) and/or rain, which may be accompanied by snow, sleet or hail	Loss or damage caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• storm, rainwater or wind to trees, shrubs or plants</li> <li>• storm, rainwater or wind to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– retaining walls,</li> <li>– free standing walls,</li> <li>– fences or</li> <li>– gates</li> </ul>               unless they are located in Queensland or Western Australia or they are constructed of               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– brick, concrete, masonry, stone or steel</li> <li>– timber but are 15 years old or less</li> </ul> </li> <li>• flood                “flood” means the inundation of normally dry land by water from any watercourse, lake, canal, dam or reservoir</li> </ul>

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
(b) Storm (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the action of the sea, high water, or tidal wave,</li> <li>• water seeping through a wall or floor</li> <li>• fungus, mildew, mould, algae</li> <li>• atmospheric or climatic conditions other than storm</li> <li>• water entering the home through an opening made for the purpose of alterations, additions, renovations or repair</li> </ul> <p>More than the greater of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– \$5,000, or</li> <li>– 8% of your unspecified contents sum insured,</li> </ul> <p>for damage to contents in the open air; but this limit does not apply to spas or above-ground swimming pools that are full.</p> <p>Please see “Words with special meanings” for the Open air definition.</p> <p>An above-ground swimming pool means one that has most of its water volume above the average ground level of the ground that the pool occupies and its immediate surrounds.</p>
(c) Lightning or thunderbolt	

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
(d) Earthquake or tsunami. All destruction or damage occurring within a period of 72 hours of the earthquake or tsunami is regarded as the one insured event. Tsunami means a sea wave caused by a disturbance of the ocean floor or seismic movement.	The first \$200 for earthquake or tsunami damage, or the excess amount shown on your Policy Schedule, whichever is greater.
(e) Theft or attempted theft	<p>Loss or damage caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• theft by any person who is living at the site unless there is evidence that your home has been entered forcibly and violently</li> <li>• theft of cash or negotiables, unless there is evidence that your home has been entered forcibly and violently.</li> </ul> <p>“forcible and violent entry” does not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– entry through a door or window that has been left open or unlocked,</li> <li>– where the home has been entered with the consent of the owner or occupier of the home.</li> </ul> <p>More than \$800 for cash and negotiables (but only if there is evidence of forcible and violent entry.)</p> <p>More than the greater of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– \$5,000, or</li> <li>– 8% of your unspecified contents sum insured,</li> </ul> <p>for theft of contents in the open air.</p> <p>Please see “Words with special meanings” for the Open air definition.</p>

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
(f) Malicious acts	Loss or damage intentionally caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• you, your family, or your family's visitors</li> <li>• a tenant, or a tenant's visitors or family, unless we have agreed to extend this cover to include "Optional cover – malicious damage by tenants, tenant's visitors or family".</li> </ul>
(g) Riot or civil commotion	
(h) Bursting, leaking, discharging or overflowing of fixed basins, shower bases, or other fixed apparatus, fixed tanks or fixed pipes used to hold or carry liquid of any kind. Water suddenly escaping from a waterbed or aquarium. If we accept a claim because damage has occurred as a direct result of the liquid escaping, we will also pay the reasonable costs of locating the cause of the damage, and the costs of reinstating the property damaged or disturbed in the course of work.	Loss or damage which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• occurs gradually over time</li> <li>• results from water escaping from a shower base not fitted with a tray or water proof membrane</li> <li>• is caused by the porous condition of any tiles, grouting or sealant.</li> </ul> We will not pay for repair or replacement of the apparatus, tank or pipe itself.
(i) Impact by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a vehicle, an aircraft or a waterborne craft</li> <li>• space debris or debris from an aircraft, rocket or satellite</li> </ul>	Loss or damage caused by felling or lopping trees at the site

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
(i) Impact by (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a falling tree or part of a tree</li> <li>• a mast or a television or radio aerial that has broken or collapsed</li> </ul> "Impact" means a collision of 2 or more objects	
(j) Breakage of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any fixed glass, shower base, basin, sink, bath, lavatory pan or cistern if this Policy insures the home</li> <li>• glass forming part of an item of furniture, or, domestic telephones, if this Policy insures the contents.</li> </ul>	Damage to any property other than the broken glass (except for window tinting or shatter-proofing) or shower base, basin, sink, lavatory pan, cistern or telephone.  Any item that is chipped or scratched prior to the breakage.  Any item where the only damage is chipping or scratching or the breakage does not extend through the entire thickness.  Glass in a picture frame or clock.  Glass in television sets, radios, VDUs (Visual Display Units) or any other computer or electrical equipment.  Glassware, crystal or ornaments.  Mobile cellular telephones.
(k) Fusion of an electric motor:  Fusion is the process of fusing or melting together of the windings of an electric motor following damage to their insulating material as a result of overheating caused by an electric current.	Motors more than 15 years from the date of purchase when new or more than 15 years from the date of rewinding.  The cost of repair or replacement of additional parts or service items, including worn or broken bearings or switches.

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
<p>(k) Fusion of an electric motor: (continued)</p> <p>We will pay the cost of rewinding the motor, or at our option, replacing it. For refrigerators and air conditioning units, we pay for the replacement of refrigerant gas and refrigerant driers, only if replacement of the refrigerant gas or drier is made necessary because of the fusion.</p>	<p>Leakage of refrigerant gas and maintenance of refrigerant driers.</p> <p>Lighting elements (for example, light bulbs or fluorescent tubes) or heating elements, solenoids, fuses or protective devices (for example a fuse or circuit breaker).</p> <p>Electrical contact points where sparking or arcing occurs during ordinary use.</p> <p>The cost of retrieving, removing or replacing the pump section of pool or pressure pumps or the cost of retrieving submersible pumps or their driving motors.</p> <p>Electronic controllers or other electronics.</p>
<p>(l) Spoilage of food</p> <p>If this Policy insures your contents, we also pay for spoilage of food or legally prescribed pharmaceutical drugs that require refrigeration in domestic refrigerators or freezers at the site caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• breakdown of the refrigerator or freezer</li> <li>• failure of the electricity supply to the home.</li> </ul>	<p>Spoilage as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strikes</li> <li>• switching off or disconnecting the electricity supply.</li> </ul>

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
<p>(m) Power surge to domestic appliances or domestic equipment directly caused by an identifiable and verifiable source outside your home including; a lightning strike, an object contacting power lines, the resumption of power following a blackout caused by a storm or unexpected interference with a power company transformer by an animal.</p>	<p>Domestic appliances or domestic equipment more than 15 years from the date of purchase when new.</p> <p>Any power surges caused at the site.</p>
<p>(n) Erosion, subsidence, landslide or earth movement but only if it is directly as a result of one of the following insured events;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– (a) explosion</li> <li>– (b) storm</li> <li>– (d) earthquake</li> <li>– (h) escaping liquid</li> </ul> <p>and it occurs no more than 72 hours after the insured event.</p>	<p>Any other erosion, subsidence, landslide or earth movement event.</p>
<p>(o) Damage caused by animals or birds</p>	<p>Any damage caused by or resulting from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any animal kept at the site</li> <li>• rodents, vermin or insects, (at any stage of their life cycle)</li> <li>• any gnawing, chewing, pecking, clawing, scratching or in any way polluting or soiling; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– your contents in the open air, or</li> <li>– any exterior part of your home, or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

You are insured against loss or damage caused directly by the following insured events	But not
(o) Damage caused by animals or birds (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- any part of the interior of your home that is not fully enclosed and secured prior to and at the time of damage. By secure we mean that there is no open door, window or screen that allowed the animal to enter.</li> <li>- any part of the interior of your home if you or the occupier has knowingly permitted an animal to enter your home.</li> </ul>

## How we will pay

### Home

(a) At our option we:

- repair the home, or
- replace the home to a condition substantially the same as, but not better than when new, or
- pay the reasonable cost of its repair or replacement to a condition substantially the same as when new, or
- pay up to the sum insured shown on your Policy Schedule.

If your home is damaged beyond economic repair, we will pay no more than the reasonable cost of replacement when new even if you have insured for an amount greater than the reasonable cost of replacement when new. When we pay your claim for your home being damaged beyond economic repair, the Policy is exhausted and comes to an end.

### Special benefit – Home sum insured safeguard

If we agree that the cost to repair or replace your home is greater than your home sum insured, then we will pay up to 30% more than your home sum insured to, at our option:

- repair the home, or
- replace the home to a condition substantially the same as, but not better than when new, or

- pay the reasonable cost of its repair or replacement to a condition substantially the same as when new.

This Special benefit applies only if:

- A. this Policy insures your home, and
- B. your home is so damaged by an event that is insured by this Policy that it is considered by us to be a total loss, and
- C. the cost to repair or replace your home is greater than your home sum insured because either,
  - (i) the increased cost of repairing damage to your home was caused directly by a Catastrophic event, or
  - (ii) you correctly used the QBE Home Building Sum Insured Calculator on the QBE Website to calculate your Home sum Insured and the calculator estimated an inadequate sum insured for your home, provided;
    - that you can demonstrate that you correctly used the QBE Home Sum Insured Calculator to determine your home sum insured, and
    - your home is substantially the same as when you used the QBE Home Sum Insured Calculator (for example, you have not added to nor extended your home), and
    - you have not reduced any sum insured that we have offered on any renewal invitation since you used the QBE Home Sum Insured Calculator.

Catastrophic event means a suddenly occurring, major, natural disaster that is insured by this Policy, where the resultant damage to property in the vicinity of your home and generally is so extensive and widespread that the resultant surge in demand for the materials and labour required to repair buildings causes a surge in the prices of building repairs.

This Special benefit only relates to the home. It does not apply to any other insured property, Policy section, Additional benefit or other Policy feature.

- (b) You may choose to have the home replaced at another site, but we do not pay more than the sum insured.
- (c) If your home is damaged beyond economic repair and you do not commence rebuilding within 6 months of the damage occurring, (or any other period which we agree with you in writing) you may have to pay any increase in cost caused by your delay.

- (d) If part of a home is damaged by an insured event and we agree to pay your claim, we pay only for the part or parts of the home that actually sustained damage. We do not pay to replace any undamaged materials.

However, if:

- it is impossible to acquire new material to replace the damaged material that reasonably matches the undamaged portion to a similar extent as immediately prior to the damage occurring, and
- the amount of damaged material that cannot be matched to the undamaged material is more than 40% of the total material that would have to be replaced if all the matching damaged and undamaged material was replaced,

then we will replace both the damaged and undamaged material.

#### Example 1

There are 300 matching white, wall tiles in the bathroom. As a result of a burst pipe, 8 bathroom wall tiles are damaged. We would pay only the reasonable cost to repair or replace the 8 damaged tiles to a condition substantially the same as when new.

(In addition, we would pay for damage sustained in locating the leak under Insured event (h) in the table under the heading “What you are insured against, and what you are NOT”.)

#### Example 2

There are 300 superseded, matching, wall tiles in the bathroom. As a result of a burst pipe, 140 wall tiles are damaged. It is impossible to locate tiles that reasonably match the remaining 160 tiles. Over 40% of the matching wall tiles have been damaged. Therefore, we would pay the reasonable cost to repair or replace all 300 tiles (140 damaged and 160 undamaged) to a condition substantially the same as when new. We would be entitled to keep the 160 undamaged wall tiles by way of salvage. We would not pay to replace any tiles located in a room other than where the loss or damage occurred.

- (e) Where materials that are required to settle a claim that we agree to pay are not commercially available in Australia, at our option, we:
- replace the material with the nearest equivalent or similar new materials available in Australia or overseas, or

- pay the cost to replace the material with the nearest equivalent or similar new materials available in Australia or overseas.

### Contents

(a) At our option we:

- repair the damaged items, or
- replace the items with items substantially the same as, but not better than when new, or
- pay the reasonable cost of repair or reinstatement to a condition substantially the same as, but not better than when new, or
- pay up to the sum insured shown on your Policy Schedule.

If your contents are damaged beyond economic repair, we will pay no more than the reasonable cost of replacement when new even if you have insured them for an amount greater than the reasonable cost of replacement when new. When we pay your claim for all your contents being damaged beyond economic repair, the Policy is exhausted and comes to an end. We will not pay more than the total contents sum insured for all contents lost or damaged.

- (b) If we agree to pay a claim where film, photos, home movies or home videos or any similar recorded material is destroyed, we pay for the replacement with new, blank film, videos or similar (e.g. If a compact disc upon which you had photos stored is destroyed, we would replace it with a new, blank compact disc). We do not pay to reconstruct any circumstances or conditions.
- (c) If we agree to pay a claim where software is lost, damaged or destroyed, we pay the cost to replace it with the nearest equivalent new software. We do not pay for any software that was acquired by you at no cost.
- (d) Where an item required to settle a claim that we agree to pay is not commercially available in Australia, at our option, we:
- replace the item with the nearest equivalent or similar new item available in Australia or overseas, or
  - pay the cost to replace the item with the nearest equivalent or similar new item available in Australia or overseas.

- (e) The maximum we pay on the following contents items is shown in the table below. You may obtain higher limits for (a), (b), (c), (f) or (g) (except for cash) by having any of these items specified on your Policy Schedule. Additional conditions may be imposed, for example, it may be required to keep items in a safe when not being used. We will pay up to the amount specified for each item.

Contents where a maximum limit applies	Maximum Limit
(a) Works of art, pictures, tapestries, rugs.	\$20,000 per item and in total 25% of the sum insured for unspecified contents.
(b) Items of jewellery, gold or silver articles, furs, watches.	\$2,500 per item and in total 25% of the sum insured for unspecified contents.
(c) Collections of any kind.	\$10,000 per collection and in total 25% of the sum insured for unspecified contents.
(d) Office or surgical equipment used by you or your family in your or their own business in the home.	\$15,000 in total.
(e) Other equipment used by you or your family for earning income.	\$5,000 in total including a maximum of \$2,000 for business stock temporarily stored inside the home for a maximum period of 30 days.
(f) Accessories, or spare parts of motor vehicles (including motor cycles and motor scooters), caravans, trailers and watercraft NOT in or on the motor vehicle, caravan, trailer, or watercraft. We include motor vehicle keys, remote locking or alarm devices as accessories while they are not in or on the motor vehicle but we do not pay for any re-coding of devices or changing of vehicle locks.	\$1,250 per item up to \$2,500 in total.

Contents where a maximum limit applies	Maximum Limit
(g) Cash, coins, negotiables or bullion.	\$800 in total.
(h) Storm damage to or theft of contents in the open air.  Open air is restricted to the site and includes non lockable structures and non-lockable parts of the home.  "Open air" also means in or on a motor vehicle, motor cycle, trailer or caravan, at the site whether those vehicles are locked or not, unless the vehicle is in a fully enclosed, locked, private structure; for example your own garage to which no-one else has access.	The greater of; – \$5,000, or – 8% of your unspecified contents sum insured, but this limit does not apply to spas or above-ground swimming pools that are full.

#### Note:

Where an item could be classified under more than one of the above maximum limits, (a) through to (h), the lower or lowest limit applies. For example, a piece of gold jewellery may be considered to be a work of art, however the jewellery sublimit would be applied.

If we choose to pay to replace a specified item, we will pay no more than the amount that it would cost us to replace the item with an item substantially the same as, but not better than when new, even if you have specified the item for a higher amount, whether or not you have supplied a valuation. We have negotiated special arrangements with various suppliers to purchase items for less than retail cost. Premiums are therefore based upon us replacing items at less than retail cost.

#### Antiques

Where we pay a claim for an antique item, and the market value of the item exceeds the cost of its replacement with a new item because of its antiquity and rarity, we will treat the market value as though it is the cost to replace the lost or damaged antique with a new item.

For example:

An antique sterling silver claret jug created in 1880 is stolen and we agree to pay the claim. The antique jug has a current valuation of \$11,000. To replace the item

with the closest, similar new item would cost \$2,100. At the time of the loss, our inquiries indicate that to replace that antique item at market value would be approximately \$11,000 but there is no equivalent item currently for sale in Australia or overseas. The market value of the item is higher than the new replacement cost due to the item's antiquity and rarity. In this instance, we would pay you \$11,000 for the jug rather than \$2,100. The sum we pay you would be subject to any applicable excess.

(f) Floor and Wall Coverings, Blinds and Curtains

For wall coverings, and carpets and other floor coverings, curtains and internal blinds, we pay only for items in the room, hall or passage where the damage occurred.

(g) Pairs and Sets

A "pair or set" means 2 or more articles, the collective value of which exceeds the sum of their individual values.

If any item lost or damaged is part of a pair or set, we pay no more than the actual value of the item. We do not give any allowance for any special value it may have as forming part of a pair or set, or for any reduction in value of the remaining part or parts.

## Section 3: Cover for your Legal Liability

### What you are covered against

#### If this Policy covers your home

If this Policy covers your home or, if the home is a strata titled residence and your contents are insured under this Policy, we insure you and any member of your family against any claim for compensation or expenses which you or the member of your family become legally liable to pay for:

- (a) the death of, or bodily injury to, any person
- (b) the loss of, or damage to, property

resulting from an occurrence during the period of insurance arising out of the ownership of the home or occupancy of the home.

We include land, trees, shrubs and other plant life on the site as part of your home.

#### If this Policy covers your contents

If this Policy covers your contents and the home is your primary residence, we insure you and any member of your family against any claim for compensation or expenses which you or the member of your family become legally liable to pay for:

- (a) the death of, or bodily injury to, any person

- (b) the loss of, or damage to, property

resulting from an occurrence during the period of insurance, anywhere in the world that is not related to the ownership of your home.

An "occurrence" includes continuous or repeated exposure to substantially the same general conditions. We regard all death, bodily injury or loss or damage to property arising from one original source or cause as one occurrence.

#### Additional benefits – Liability

The "Motor Vehicle Liability" and "Committee Member of a Social or Sporting Club" additional benefits apply only when you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence or this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence.

#### Motor vehicle liability

##### What we insure you against:

- (a) We insure you and any member of your family against any claim for compensation or expenses which you or the member of your family become legally liable to pay for:

- the death of, or bodily injury to, any person
- the loss of, or damage to, property

arising from the ownership, custody, or use of:

- any vehicle which is a type that is not required to be registered by law
- any motorised wheelchair
- any domestic trailer not attached to any vehicle

resulting from an occurrence during the period of insurance.

- (b) We also insure you or any member of your family against claims for:

- death or bodily injury caused by you or your family solely as a result of you or your family being passengers in a registered vehicle
- death or bodily injury caused by any registered vehicle if the occurrence causing the death or bodily injury takes place at the site

during the period of insurance.

**When we do not insure you or your family**

We do not insure you or your family:

- (a) if you or your family are entitled to be wholly or partly insured by any compulsory statutory insurance or accident compensation scheme, or would have been, but for failure to register the vehicle or to apply for cover under the scheme or to comply with a term or condition of the scheme
- (b) if you or your family are entitled to be wholly or partly protected by any other Policy of insurance which specifically covers the vehicle (except where this exclusion would contravene s.45 of the Insurance Contracts Act, 1985).

**Committee member of a social or sporting club****What we insure you against:**

We insure you and any member of your family against any claim for compensation or expenses which you or the member of your family become legally liable in Australia to pay for an alleged or actual act or omission arising out of your position as a committee member of a sporting club or social club.

We will not pay if you receive any payment or remuneration of any kind for holding the position.

The most that we will pay under this additional benefit in any one period of insurance is \$10,000.

**We do not insure you or your family against liabilities arising from:**

- (a) any act or omission for which you or your family receive reimbursement from the sporting or social club, or
- (b) any act or omission which is committed or alleged to have been committed prior to the period of insurance commencing or after it has ended.

**Liability cover for the site continues following a home total loss**

If your home is a total loss as the result of an insured event and your home Policy comes to an end, we will continue to provide you with this liability cover in relation to the site that your home formerly occupied until the earliest of;

- any construction commencing at the site,
- the sale of the site or any part of it,

- another Policy that includes liability cover being taken out in relation to the site,
- the commencement of construction of a home to replace the insured home at another site, or
- six months from the date of the damage that caused the total loss.

**What you are NOT covered against**

(applies to “Legal Liability” and “Additional benefits – Liability”)

**When we do not insure you or your family**

We do not insure you or your family:

- (a) against any liability caused by or arising directly or indirectly, out of or in connection with the actual or alleged use or presence of asbestos
- (b) against fines, penalties, or punitive, aggravated, multiple or exemplary damages.

**We do not insure you or your family against liabilities arising from:**

- (a) any agreement, unless liability would have attached to you or your family if that agreement did not exist, or unless the agreement is a lease agreement for your residential tenancy that complies with the relevant Residential Tenancies Act or similar
- (b) death of or bodily injury to you or to any person who normally lives with you

In this exclusion we consider that a person normally lives with you, if that person:

- has used your home, or
- is living with you and intends or intended to use your home

as their primary residence for 60 days or more out of any 90 consecutive day period (irrespective of the commencement date of the Policy) during which there is an occurrence

- (c) death of or bodily injury to anyone employed by you or by someone who lives with you if the death or injury arises out of their employment
- (d) damage to property belonging to you or any person who normally lives with you or to your or their employees

- (e) any workers compensation legislation, industrial award or agreement, or statutory accident compensation scheme
- (f) the ownership, custody, or use of any lift, aerial device or aircraft (except model aircraft or toy kites), aircraft landing area, boat exceeding 4 metres in length (except canoes, kayaks, surfboards, surf skis or sailboards) or motorised watercraft in excess of 10 horsepower
- (g) the conduct of any activity carried on by you or your family for reward except for letting the home for domestic purposes or babysitting on a casual basis

Babysitting cannot be considered to be on a casual basis where:

- the babysitting is not of a casual nature
  - any licence or other permission is required by any government body or public authority in order to legally conduct the babysitting
  - the income derived from babysitting is the primary or only source of the household's income
  - there is a registered business associated with the babysitting
- (h) vibration or the weakening of, removal of or interference with support to land, buildings or other property
  - (i) building work, construction or demolition of a building, including the home if the value of the work exceeds \$75,000
  - (j) death or bodily injury to any person arising out of pregnancy or the transmission of any communicable disease by you or your family
  - (k) the ownership of land, buildings or structures other than the home. If you have insured your contents only, then you are not covered for any legal liability arising from the ownership of any land, buildings or structures
  - (l) loss, damage or injury intentionally caused by you or a member of your family or a person acting with your consent or the consent of any member of your family unless the action was reasonable and to prevent or reduce loss, damage or injury to property or persons
  - (m) the lawful seizure, confiscation, nationalisation or requisition of the property insured
  - (n) destruction of or damage to property by any government or public or local authority
  - (o) the ownership or use of any motor vehicle other than under the cover given by the "Additional benefit – Motor Vehicle Liability"

- (p) any act or omission that is knowingly illegal, dishonest, fraudulent, wilful, malicious or done with reckless disregard for their consequences by you, your family or a person acting with the consent of you or your family.

### What we will pay

- (a) We pay up to \$30,000,000 for any one occurrence.
- (b) We do not pay more than this amount in total under all Policies we have issued to you which cover the same liability.
- (c) In addition to this amount, we pay legal costs for which we have provided prior written approval.

### Section 4: Additional benefits

We give you the following Additional benefits. For any Additional benefits to be payable, you must suffer or incur the relevant loss, liability or damage during the period of insurance.

**We pay Additional benefits 1 to 21 as part of the sums insured for home or contents, depending on the type of cover you have chosen:**

#### 1. Temporary removal of your contents

If this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence, we also insure them in a bank or safe deposit, or for a period of up to 180 consecutive days while you or your family are residing in any dwelling or residential flat, boarding house, boarding school, hotel, motel, residential club, nursing home or hospital, anywhere in Australia.

We also insure the unspecified contents that you temporarily entrust to someone else for no more than 60 days, only for personal use at their address. We will not pay for claims;

- to contents that have been entrusted for more than 60 days, or
- for cash, negotiables, contents for which we impose a sublimit under, "How we will pay – Contents", or portable electronic equipment (such as portable computers or mobile phones) that have been entrusted.

We also insure your contents when they are being carried by you or your family anywhere in Australia, excluding any cover for theft (apart from any cover under "Additional benefit 2 – Robbery away from home").

Under this Additional benefit we do not pay for any loss or damage to:

- (a) contents in the open (including non-lockable structures) away from the site, or in a vehicle, caravan, tent, watercraft or aircraft
- (b) property used in connection with a profession, trade or business.

We pay up to 20% of the sum insured under Unspecified contents on the Policy Schedule, however the sublimits will also apply as set out in the table under “How we will pay – Contents” point (e). (Contents temporarily entrusted are not insured if a sublimit applies).

Contents are not covered for loss or damage if you have permanently removed them from the home, other than as provided under “Additional benefit 9 – Change of site”.

## 2. Robbery away from home

This Additional benefit applies if this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence.

We will insure your handbag and/or wallet and personal effects contained in them if you are assaulted and robbed of your handbag and/or wallet while you are away from your home, if:

- (a) you (or if you are hospitalised, you or someone on your behalf) report the incident to police as soon as possible, or in any event within 24 hours of the assault, and
- (b) you can demonstrate evidence of an assault.

The maximum we will pay under this Additional benefit is:

- (a) for the handbag or wallet, up to \$300 each
- (b) for personal effects contained in the handbag or wallet, excluding cash and negotiables, up to \$300
- (c) for cash or negotiables contained in the handbag or wallet, up to a maximum of \$400
- (d) a total of \$1,000 in any period of insurance.

## 3. Fees

If this Policy insures your home, and

- it is damaged as a result of an insured event, and
- we agree to pay a claim, we pay any reasonable fees which we have approved and which are incurred directly in relation to repair or replacement of your home.

## 4. Removal of debris

If this Policy insures your home, and

- it is damaged as a result of an insured event, and
- we agree to pay a claim,

we pay the reasonable costs of demolition and removal of debris from the site to the nearest authorised facility.

If the damage is caused directly by a fallen tree that has, as a result of the insured event, become debris, we will remove the tree from the site. We will remove a standing tree or branch that formed part of the tree that caused the insured damage only if:

- (a) we agree that the remaining tree or branch is unsafe
- (b) the remaining tree or branch only became unsafe as a direct result of the insured event causing damage to the tree, and
- (c) all necessary approvals have been obtained and removal of the tree or branch would not result in a breach of any laws, by-laws, regulations or contractual obligations.

We will remove a stump that formed part of the tree that caused the insured damage only if:

- (a) all necessary approvals have been obtained and removal of the stump would not result in a breach of any laws, by-laws, regulations or contractual obligations, and
- (b) not removing the stump would interfere with repairing or replacing the damaged part of the home required to settle your claim.

If this Policy insures your contents, and

- they are damaged by an insured event, and
- we agree to pay a claim

we pay the reasonable costs of removal of contents debris from the site to the nearest authorised facility.

## 5. Extra costs of reinstatement

If this Policy insures your home, and it is damaged as a result of an insured event and we agree to pay a claim, we pay the extra costs necessary to meet the requirements of any statutory authority in connection with rebuilding or repairing your home at the site.

If only part of your home is damaged, we pay only the extra costs you incur in repairing that part.

We do not pay any extra costs which resulted from any notice which a statutory authority served on you before your home suffered loss or damage.

## 6. Illegal use of credit card or financial transaction card

If this Policy insures your contents and a credit card or financial transaction card is lost or stolen, we pay up to \$5,000 towards any legal liability you incur from its unauthorised use.

We do not pay if:

- the card does not belong to you or your family
- you have not complied with the card issuer's requirements
- the unauthorised user of the card is someone living at the site.

## 7. Visitors' contents

If this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence we also insure contents up to \$5,000 in total belonging to any visitors temporarily living with you at the site for up to 30 consecutive days.

We do not pay:

- for visitors' contents that are insured under another Policy taken out by someone other than you or your family
- for any cash or negotiable instruments.

## 8. Replacement of locks and keys

We pay up to \$1,250 to replace/alter locks or keys, if:

- locks to your home are damaged, or
- keys to your home are stolen

by someone breaking into your home.

## 9. Change of site

If this Policy insures your contents and you are moving into a new home within Australia, we insure your contents at both sites for a maximum of 30 days. The maximum we pay at each site will be the proportion of the sum insured that the value of the contents at that site bears to the total value of the contents at both sites.

You must tell us of your new address within 30 days of first moving to it. If you wish to insure your contents at your new address after that 30 days we must agree to insure them at that address.

You must pay us any additional premium we ask for and comply with any conditions we impose.

## 10. Contents being conveyed to your new residence

This Additional benefit applies if this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence.

We insure your contents if they are damaged while they are in a vehicle being used to convey your contents. The damage must occur directly as a result of:

- theft from the conveying vehicle involving the use of violent force
- fire on the conveying vehicle
- collision and/or overturning of the conveying vehicle

while your contents are in transit by road to:

- your new, principal place of residence, or
- a storage facility at which your contents or some of your contents will be temporarily located pending conveyance to your new principal place of residence

within Australia.

We do not insure your contents:

- for removal to any residence other than one intended to be occupied by you as your principal residence
- for damage to china, glass, earthenware or any other item of a brittle nature
- for damage caused by scratching, denting, bruising or chipping
- outside Australia.

## 11. Contracting purchaser

If this Policy insures your home, and you have entered a contract to sell the home, this Policy insures the purchaser from:

- when they become liable for any damage to the home until the contract is settled or terminated, or
- until the purchaser insures the home

whichever happens first.

## 12. Trees, shrubs and plants

If you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence, we pay up to \$750 for loss or damage to any one tree, shrub or plant up to \$3,000 in total in any one period of insurance caused directly by an insured event other than storm, or other events connected to the weather or any event that is not sudden and unforeseen. We do not insure grass or lawn. We only repair or replace trees, plants

or shrubs that as a direct result of the insured event, are so damaged that they die, are permanently disfigured or not recovered after being stolen.

### 13. Veterinary expenses for domestic cats and dogs

If you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence or this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence, we pay the reasonable veterinary expenses incurred by you if your domestic cat or dog, normally kept at the site, is accidentally injured as a result of a road accident, fire, lightning or earthquake.

We will not pay:

- more than \$750 in total in any one period of insurance
- costs or expenses resulting from the physical loss, theft or death of an animal including but not limited to post mortem, disposal, burial or cremation
- routine elective or preventative veterinary treatment such as vaccinations, spaying or heartworm testing
- for treatment of any pre-existing condition
- for treatment of injury or illness arising from or connected with a sporting event, cat or dog show, business, occupation or commercial activity, including but not limited to guard dog services, commercial breeding, hire or renting out of the animal, or
- if the injured cat or dog was not registered and/or micro-chipped as required by any law or regulation made by any government or public authority.

### 14. Taxation audit

If you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence or this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence, we will pay or reimburse you for accountants fees which you reasonably incur as a result of your personal taxation affairs being audited by the Australian Taxation Office.

The maximum we pay is \$5,000 for any one audit.

We do not pay or reimburse you for:

- any fines, penalties or shortfall in the amount of tax payable
- any audit conducted in relation to criminal activity
- any audit not commenced during the period of insurance

- any fees incurred outside any statutory time limit
- any fees incurred as a result of any fraudulent act or fraudulent admission or any statement made by you or on your behalf to a taxation officer which:
  - is false or misleading in a material particular, and
  - can be attributed to deliberate evasion or recklessness as stipulated in income tax ruling IT2517.
- any audit conducted in relation to any facts or circumstances of which you were aware, or ought to have been aware, prior to the commencement of this Policy which were likely to lead to your making a claim under this Policy, or
- any fees incurred in relation to any enquiries from the Australian Taxation Office which are not related to an identified intention to conduct an audit.

### 15. Legal defence costs

If you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence or this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence, we will pay or reimburse you for your legal fees, costs, and expenses which you reasonably incur in legal proceedings initiated against you by a third party (and defended by you) but only where the proceedings are commenced in Australia during the period of insurance.

The maximum we pay is \$5,000 for any one claim or series of claims arising from the same cause or event.

We do not pay or reimburse for proceedings or claims:

- for or relating to fines, penalties, punitive damages
- by family members including spouse, ex-spouse, partner, or ex-partner
- for or relating to divorce, separation, child visiting, maintenance, property disputes
- for or relating to dishonesty, intentional violence, misconduct
- for or relating to defamation or slander
- relating to facts or occurrences, occurring prior to the commencement of the Policy which you knew or ought to have known at the time of commencement of this Policy, would, or might, give rise to a claim
- initiated, threatened or commenced prior to the commencement of this Policy

- under or relating to any workers compensation legislation, industrial award or agreement, or statutory accident compensation scheme or compulsory third party insurance
- which could have been made under Section 3 “Your legal liability” if you had chosen to insure your home (if you own it) or your contents.

#### **16. Waiver of excess if your property is a total loss**

You are not required to pay an excess if we agree to pay a claim as a result of damage that renders your home, contents or both beyond economic repair.

#### **17. Monitored alarm attendance after theft**

If this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence, we will pay up to \$1,250 for the reasonable costs actually incurred by you for the security firm that monitors your burglar alarm to attend your home during or immediately after an actual or attempted theft from your home if:

- there is evidence of forcible or violent entry
- the theft or attempted theft is not committed by any person who is living at the site, and
- you report the incident to police as soon as possible and in any event, no more than 24 hours after the theft or attempted theft occurred.

We do not pay:

- for any false alarms, or
- where there is no evidence of a theft or an attempted theft, or
- more than \$1,250 in any period of insurance.

#### **18. Replacement of documentation**

If this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence we will pay up to \$2,500 for the reasonable costs to replace the following documentation directly damaged by an insured event that has caused a claim that we agreed to pay:

- Title Deeds
- Birth Certificates
- A Marriage Certificate
- Passports
- Drivers Licences
- Proof of Age Card.

#### **19. New replacement residence – Temporary cover**

If this Policy insures your home, we will provide cover for the carpets, curtains and internal blinds and other contents items included in the sale contract of an additional residential building when you purchase it, for a maximum of 42 days from the date you sign a contract of purchase. The amount of cover provided is limited to the sum insured on your home shown on your Policy Schedule. We only provide this cover when the residential building is replacing the home on your Policy Schedule as your primary residence.

#### **20. Building materials**

If this Policy insures your home, which is your primary residence, we will pay up to \$2,000 in any one Period of insurance if your unfixed building materials are lost or damaged at the site due to an insured event covered by this Policy. Cover only applies to building materials intended to be used for repairs, alterations or additions to your home at the site. (We do not insure soil, sand, gravel, bark or mulch or any similar materials.) We do not cover any gas or electrical appliances unless they are in a locked and fully enclosed building where those items are not visible from the outside of the building.

#### **21. Accidental damage extension for your home and contents in the home**

We insure you for physical loss or damage caused by accidental damage to your home, contents or both, depending which you have insured, not insured under the insured events (a) to (o) listed under, “Section 2: Cover for your Home & Contents – Insured events”. Your contents, if you have insured them, are only insured under this Additional benefit whilst they are contained inside the home.

Accidental damage means loss or damage that is accidentally, suddenly, unintentionally and unexpectedly caused by an identifiable event (other than by Insured events (a) to (o)). Accidental damage does not include the misplacement, or failure to locate any item nor unexplained disappearance of any item.

Under this Additional benefit, you are not insured for any exclusion listed under “But not” under “Section 2: Cover for your Home & Contents – Insured events” other than the following – you are insured for Accidental damage:

- caused directly by scorching, charring, melting, burning or smoke without flames;
- caused by accidental breakage of;
  - glass or ceramic ornaments,

- glass in – television screens or picture tubes, VDUs, radios, clocks picture frames or hand mirrors,
- caused directly by theft by someone who has been allowed to enter the home with the consent of the owner or occupier, but not theft by tenants;
- by any animal, other than a rodent or insect, kept at the site (but not any gnawing, chewing, pecking, clawing, scratching, polluting or soiling).

Under this Accidental damage Additional benefit, we do not insure;

- any theft of cash, negotiables or documents of any kind,
- any theft of any type of mobile telephones,
- any theft of computers of any type – including laptops, notebooks, palmtops, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) electronic diaries, electronic notebooks, pocket Personal Computers, MP3 or MP4 players or any similar devices
- any loss of or damage to electronic data – For the purposes of this exclusion, electronic data means any facts, concepts and/ or information converted to a form usable for communications and/or displays and/or distribution and/or processing by electronic and/or electromechanical data processing and/or electronically controlled equipment which includes but is not limited to programs and/or software and/or other coded instructions for such equipment
- any damage caused by any malfunction, virus, trojan horse, worm backdoor, trapdoor, logic bomb, bacteria, rabbit program or any type of computer hacking or similar attack
- mechanical, electronic or electrical breakdown of any kind
- photographs, film or any image whether stored electronically or otherwise,
- aircraft, watercraft or vehicles, of any kind, whether they are remote controlled or not,
- any contents lost or damaged outside the home
- any theft, loss or damage caused by your tenants or boarders
- any loss or damage resulting from any building work, renovations or building alterations of any kind, however we will insure you against damage arising solely out of painting the home provided no work other than painting is being undertaken

- any loss or damage where the incident that caused the loss cannot be specified by you.
- any fishing, sporting or musical equipment whilst in use or play
- any Exclusion under the Section, “When you are not covered”.

### How we will Pay

For this Additional benefit, we will pay on the same basis as under “Section 2 – How we will pay”, however, we will not pay the first \$5,000 for each occurrence for accidental damage. (Under this Additional benefit, occurrence means all accidental damage caused by any original source or cause.) You must pay the first \$5,000 of each claim that we agree to pay for any accidental damage. The excess will be applied to each and every claim, whether or not separate instances of loss or damage are submitted at the same time.

Please note, this Additional benefit only covers your contents for accidental damage within the home for damage exceeding \$5,000. If you require accidental loss or damage cover for portable contents outside the home, you should select cover under the Valuables option.

**We pay Additional benefits 22 to 27 over and above the sums insured for home or contents, depending on the type of cover you have chosen.**

### 22. Loss of rent or temporary accommodation

We pay the following benefit if your home is so damaged by an insured event that it cannot be lived in or let to tenants:

#### If this Policy insures your Home

We pay up to \$20,000 or 20% of the sum insured for your home, whichever is the higher, for:

- (a) loss of rent or rentable value if the home is tenanted or is between tenants at the time the loss or damage occurred
- (b) additional cost of;
  - reasonable temporary accommodation,
  - emergency storage of your contents,
  - emergency accommodation of your pets,
 where the home is your principal place of residence.

**If this Policy insures your Contents**

We pay up to \$20,000 or 20% of the sum insured for your contents, whichever is the higher, for:

- (a) loss of rent or rentable value if the home is a strata title residence and it is tenanted or is between tenants at the time the loss or damage occurred
- (b) additional cost of;
  - reasonable temporary accommodation,
  - emergency storage of your contents,
  - emergency accommodation of your pets,

where you are a tenant or strata title owner permanently residing in the home.

**Forced evacuation by Government Authority**

If you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence, and if your home cannot be lived in because a Government Authority prohibits you from using it, we pay any increase in your living expenses for up to 60 days that is necessary and reasonable to maintain your household's normal standard of living.

If this Policy insures the home that you let to tenants, and if your home cannot be lived in because a Government Authority prohibits you from using it, we pay any resultant rent lost. We pay up to a maximum of 20% of the sum insured for your home for loss of rent or rentable value if the home is tenanted or is between tenants at the time the loss or damage occurred.

The government prohibition must be as a direct result of damage to neighbouring premises that would be classed as insured damage under this Policy. We do not cover loss due to cancellation of a lease or agreement including if a tenant decides to leave without giving proper notice.

Under this additional benefit 22., we do not pay for:

- (a) loss of rent if the home has been untenanted for 30 (or more) consecutive days immediately before the loss
- (b) any rent lost outside the period of untenability
- (c) any rent lost later than 12 months after the damage occurs.

**23. Automatic reinstatement of sum insured**

This benefit applies to the sums insured for home and unspecified contents as shown on your Policy Schedule.

Following payment of a claim other than a claim for total loss the sums insured will be reinstated, unless:

- you request otherwise
- we tell you otherwise.

**24. Inflation adjustment**

This benefit only applies to the home and contents sums insured as shown on your Policy Schedule.

During each period of insurance we increase the home and contents sums insured by 0.4 of 1% of the relevant sum insured shown on your current Policy Schedule per month until the next renewal date.

**25. Compensation for death**

If this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence,

- we pay to the legal representative of the deceased person up to \$15,000 in the event of death of you or a member of your family normally living with you
- as a direct result of physical injury caused by an event at the site

if the event that caused the death also caused damage for which we agree to pay a claim.

We do not pay in any one period of insurance more than \$15,000 in total under this Additional benefit.

**26. Modifications to the home**

If you occupy the home insured by this Policy as your primary residence, or this Policy insures your contents in your primary residence, and as a direct result of an insured event occurring at the site for which we agree to pay a claim:

- you, or
- a member of your family normally living with you

permanently become a paraplegic or quadriplegic, we pay up to \$15,000 for the cost incurred by you in modifying your home or in relocating you to a suitable home.

By the terms “paraplegic” and “quadriplegic”, we mean paraplegia and quadriplegia that continues for a period of twelve months and for which there is a prognosis made by a qualified and registered medical practitioner that it will continue for an indefinite period.

### 27. Legal costs

If this Policy insures your home, we pay the reasonable legal costs incurred in discharging your mortgage following settlement of a claim for total loss.

## Section 5: Options you can choose for additional premium

The following Options may be obtained on application, and for an additional premium:

1. Valuables.
2. Domestic Workers Compensation.
3. Malicious damage and theft by tenants, tenant’s visitors or family.

### 1. Valuables

If you have selected and paid for this Valuables option, we insure you and your family:

- anywhere in Australia or New Zealand, and
- for up to 60 days in any one period of insurance, anywhere in the world

against loss, theft or damage to Unspecified or Specified valuables items.

You can choose to insure your valuables as either:

- unspecified valuables, or
- specified valuables.

Your Policy Schedule indicates whether you have chosen this option and whether you have selected Unspecified valuables or Specified valuables. You can select Unspecified valuables without having to specify individual items. If you select Unspecified valuables, you are required to nominate a total Unspecified valuables sum insured. Each individual item is then insured for a maximum of 25% of the total Unspecified valuables sum insured.

If you select Specified valuables, then you must specify each item you wish to insure as a Specified valuable and provide valuations and/or receipts, unless we tell you that a valuation is not required.

There are some limitations below and under “When you are not covered”, which you must read.

### What we insure

#### Unspecified valuables

Unspecified valuables are items of personal property, which means:

- jewellery
- gold or silver objects
- watches
- sporting equipment, except while in use or play
- camping equipment, back packs and sleeping bags
- photographic equipment including video equipment
- musical equipment
- battery operated sound equipment
- binoculars
- clothing
- wheel chairs, crutches and walking sticks
- prams or strollers
- luggage
- personal mobile cellular phones, portable computers
- hearing aids, contact lenses, eye-glasses
- other personal belongings specifically designed to be worn or carried on the person.

#### Specified valuables

Specified valuables, if you have chosen to insure them, are those items shown as “Specified valuables” on the Policy Schedule.

#### What we do not insure

The following items are not covered under this Valuables option:

- bicycles, unless you have insured them as Specified valuables. Bicycles are not covered under Unspecified valuables
- vehicles (including motor cycles and motor scooters), aircraft, aerial devices, watercraft or anything associated with these items

- property used in connection with a profession, trade or business, or otherwise for reward
- cash, collections of any kind or collectibles, negotiables, or financial transaction cards
- unset precious or semi-precious stones
- items being cleaned, repaired, restored, or on exhibition away from the site.

### How much we will pay for loss or damage

(a) At our option we:

- repair the damaged item, or
- replace the lost or damaged item with an item substantially the same as, but not better than when new
- pay the reasonable cost of repair or reinstatement to a condition substantially the same as, but not better than when new, or
- pay up to the sum insured shown on your Policy Schedule against the item.

This means:

- if the loss or damage is to unspecified valuables, we will pay up to the total sum insured for unspecified valuables. However, for each unspecified item, we will not pay more than 25% of the sum insured for Unspecified valuables on the Policy Schedule.
- for specified items, we will pay up to the sum insured shown on the Policy Schedule against the item.

If we choose to pay to replace a Specified valuable item, we will pay no more than the amount that it would cost us to replace the item with an item substantially the same as, but not better than when new, even if you have specified the valuable for a higher amount, whether or not you have supplied a valuation. We have negotiated special arrangements with various suppliers to purchase items for less than retail cost. Premiums are therefore based upon us replacing items at less than retail cost.

When we pay your claim for all your valuables on the Policy being damaged beyond economic repair (or not being recovered), the Valuables section of the Policy is exhausted and comes to an end.

- (b) If we agree to pay a claim where film, photos, home movies or home videos or any similar recorded material is destroyed, we pay for the replacement with new, blank film, videos or similar (e.g. If a compact disc upon which you had photos stored is destroyed, we would replace it with a new, blank compact disc). We do not pay to reconstruct any circumstances or conditions.
- (c) If we agree to pay a claim where software is lost, damaged or destroyed, we pay the cost to replace it with the nearest equivalent new software. We do not pay for any software that was acquired by you at no cost.
- (d) Where an item required to settle a claim that we agree to pay is not commercially available in Australia, at our option, we:
  - replace the item with the nearest equivalent or similar new item available in Australia or overseas, or
  - pay the cost to replace the item with the nearest equivalent or similar new item available in Australia or overseas.
- (e) Pairs and sets

If any item lost or damaged is part of a pair or set, we pay no more than the actual value of the item. We do not give any allowance for any special value it may have as forming part of a pair or set, or for any reduction in value of the remaining part or parts.

A “pair or set” means 2 or more articles, the collective value of which exceeds the sum of their individual values.

## 2. Domestic Workers Compensation

(Applicable only in States or Territories where Domestic Workers Compensation can be offered in conjunction with a Home and Contents Policy.)

Your Policy Schedule indicates whether you have chosen this option.

If you employ a domestic worker, on a casual basis or otherwise, you may be required by law to provide that person with Workers Compensation insurance.

If you fail to do so, and your employee is injured in the course of their employment by you, you may be liable to compensate them.

Where shown on the Policy Schedule, this Policy includes Statutory Domestic Workers Compensation cover according to the Legislation in your State or Territory, up to the amount required by your State or Territory’s Legislation.

When this cover is provided, the underwriter is:

QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited ABN 78 003 191 035.

### 3. Malicious damage and theft by tenants, tenant's visitors or family

If you have selected and paid for this option it will be shown on your Policy Schedule. In return we will cover you against malicious damage and theft to your home or, contents or both, depending on which you have insured, caused by tenants, tenant's visitors or family.

We do not pay the cost of cleaning, redecorating, painting or wallpapering unless the tenant has caused actual damage to the structure of the building which makes it necessary to do so.

Any payment we make will be reduced by an amount equal to 4 weeks rent, or \$500, whichever is the greater.

"Malicious damage by tenants, tenant's visitors or family" means a wrongful act by a tenant, tenant's visitors or family motivated by malice, vindictiveness or spite with the intention of damaging the property. There is no cover for:

- damage occurring during or as a result of any maintenance, repairs or attempted repairs carried out by the tenant or anyone acting on their behalf;
- damage caused by the failure of your tenant to control their children;
- damage caused by pets belonging to your tenant;
- accidental damage or accidental loss or any scratching, denting, chipping, rubbing or chaffing.

### Section 6: What you must pay if you make a claim – Excess

"Excess" means the first amount you must contribute to any claim you make under this Policy.

We deduct the excess shown in the Policy or on the current Policy Schedule from the amount of your claim.

Where a sublimit is applicable, the excess will be applied to the claim prior to applying the sublimit. For example, if a ring worth \$3,000 was stolen from the home and it has not been specified, the \$2,500 per item jewellery sublimit would apply. If a \$100 excess was applicable, this would be applied to the \$3,000 claim, rather than the \$2,500 sublimit. Therefore, \$2,500 would be payable.

If the ring had been specified for \$3,000, we would pay \$2,900 – the \$3,000 claim less the \$100 excess.

If the stolen ring was worth only \$1,000, we would pay \$900 – \$1,000 less the \$100 excess.

For earthquake and tsunami claims the excess is \$200, or the amount shown on your Policy Schedule, whichever is greater.

All loss, destruction or damage occurring within a period of 72 hours of the earthquake is regarded as the one event.

For the Accidental damage Extension Additional benefit 21., the excess is \$5,000.

### When you will NOT have to pay an excess

You will not have to pay an excess if we agree to pay a claim as a result of damage that renders your home, contents or both beyond economic repair.

## Section 7: When you are not covered

### General exclusions applying to this Policy

This Policy excludes loss, damage, destruction, death, injury, illness, liability, cost or expense of any nature directly or indirectly caused by, contributed to by, resulting from, arising out of or in connection with any of the following, regardless of any other cause or event contributing concurrently or in any other sequence to the loss:

1. War, invasion, acts of foreign enemies, hostilities or war-like operations (whether war be declared or not), civil war, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, civil commotion assuming the proportions of or amounting to an uprising, military or usurped power, or
2. Any act(s) of Terrorism that is directly or indirectly caused by, contributed to by, or in any way involves or is connected with biological, chemical, radioactive, or nuclear pollution or contamination.

For the purpose of this exclusion, an act of terrorism includes any act, or preparation in respect of action, or threat of action designed to influence the government de jure or de facto of any nation or any political division thereof, or in pursuit of political, religious, ideological or similar purposes to intimidate the public or a section of the public of any nation by any person or group(s) of persons whether acting alone or on behalf of or in connection with any organisation(s) or government(s) de jure or de facto, and which:

- involves violence against one or more persons, or
- involves damage to property, or

- endangers life other than that of the person committing the action, or
  - creates a risk to health or safety of the public or a section of the public, or
  - is designed to interfere with or to disrupt an electronic system.
3. Radioactivity or the use, existence or escape of any nuclear fuel, nuclear material, or nuclear waste or action of nuclear fission or fusion.

This Policy also excludes any loss, destruction, damage, death, injury, illness, liability, cost or expense of any nature directly or indirectly caused by, contributed to by, resulting from or arising out of or in connection with any action taken in controlling, preventing, suppressing, retaliating against, or responding to or in any way relating to 1, 2 or 3 above.

### Additional exclusions applying to this Policy

These Additional exclusions apply to cover for your home, contents, additional benefits and valuables or malicious damage by tenants, tenant's visitors or family (if you have chosen these options).

This Policy does not cover:

- (a) loss or damage intentionally caused by you or a member of your family or a person acting with your consent or the consent of any member of your family
- (b) loss or damage resulting from or caused by:
- the lawful seizure, confiscation, nationalisation or requisition of the property insured
  - destruction of or damage to property by any government or public or local authority
  - the deliberate application of heat (for example, this would include where an element under or forming part of a ceramic cooktop causes damage to the cooktop)
  - inherent defects, structural defects, faulty workmanship, faulty design or any gradual process
  - wear, tear, rust, corrosion, depreciation or gradual deterioration
  - fungus, mildew, mould, algae, atmospheric or climatic conditions (other than as described under insured event, (b) storm)

- settling, shrinkage or expansion in buildings, foundations, walls or pavements
- the removal or weakening of supports or foundations for the purpose of alterations, additions, renovations or repair
- mechanical, electrical or electronic breakdown with the exception of fusion to electric motors as described under insured event (k) or as the result of a lightning strike under insured event (c) or as the result of power surge to domestic appliances under Insured event (m) (under "Section 2: Cover for your Home and Contents – Insured events")
- loss of or damage to electronic data caused by electronic or mechanical derangement or malfunction or by a virus, or processing error
- any consequential loss other than that specifically provided by this Policy
- any process of cleaning involving the use of chemicals
- rodents, vermin, or insects (at any stage of their life cycle).

For example: If a mouse was to chew through an electrical wire, which led to a fire, the damage caused directly by the fire would be covered by this Policy under insured event (a), however any damage caused by the mouse's chewing would not be covered by this Policy.

- erosion, subsidence, landslide or earth movement other than as provided in Insured event (n)
  - the action of the sea, high water, tidal wave.
- (c) loss or damage to:
- sporting equipment while in use or play
  - bicycles while they are being used for any competition or contest including racing, pacemaking, time trial or hill climb
  - bicycle tyres whilst the bicycle is being ridden
  - damage to the appearance of the bicycle caused whilst the bicycle is being ridden such as scratching, denting, chipping or defacing. This does not include damage that materially affects the performance of the bicycle
  - items for sale on consignment.

## Section 8: General conditions

### Changing your Policy

If you want to make a change to this Policy, the change becomes effective when:

- we agree to it, and
- we give you a new Policy Schedule detailing the change.

### Other interests

You must not transfer any interests in this Policy without our written consent.

Any person whose interests you have told us about and we have noted on your Policy Schedule is bound by the terms of this Policy.

### Cancelling your Policy

#### How you may cancel this Policy

- You may cancel this Policy at any time by telling us in writing that you want to cancel it.
- Where “you” involves more than one person, we will only cancel the Policy when a written agreement to cancel the Policy is received from all persons named as the insured.

#### How we may cancel this Policy

- We may cancel this Policy in any of the circumstances permitted by law by informing you in writing.
- We will give you this notice in person or send it to your address last known to us.

### The premium

We will refund to you the proportion of the premium for the remaining period of insurance.

### Notices

Any notice we give you will be in writing, and it will be effective:

- if it is delivered to you personally, or
- if it is delivered or posted to your address last known to us.

It is important for you to tell us of any change of address as soon as possible.

## Changes

You must tell us as soon as possible if circumstances occur, or if changes or alterations are intended or made which increase the risk of loss, damage or injury.

Examples of circumstances where the risk of loss, damage or injury may increase include where:

- you are having renovations undertaken
- the home is left vacant or unoccupied for a period exceeding 60 days
- the home falls into a state of disrepair
- your home is opened up to the public for an exhibition or similar event (including if it is not for reward), or
- you are participating in a public exhibition (including if it is not for reward).

## Unoccupancy

If your home is unoccupied for more than 60 consecutive days, you must tell us and obtain our written agreement for cover to continue.

If you do not do so, the cover for home and contents is limited to lightning, thunderbolt, riot and civil commotion, damage directly caused by impact by a vehicle, aircraft, waterborne craft, space debris, rocket, satellite, or a branch, tsunami and earthquake for the period in excess of 60 consecutive days during which the home has been left unoccupied. However, we do not insure you against any subsequent resultant damage such as rainwater entering any opening made by impact or looting subsequent to a riot.

The period of 60 consecutive days is calculated from the date when the home was last occupied regardless of the commencement or renewal date of the Policy.

“Occupied” means that the home is furnished such that it is comfortably habitable and you, your family or someone with your consent has resided in the home overnight.

To be occupied the home must:

- contain at least one usable bed/mattress
- contain at least one dining table or bench, a chair and some other furniture
- contain a functioning refrigerator
- be connected to the electricity supply, and
- be connected to hot and cold running water.

## Salvage

We are entitled to obtain and retain any items or materials that are salvaged or recovered after you make, and we agree, to pay a claim by replacing or paying to replace any items or materials. We may sell the items or materials and keep the proceeds. We may choose to sell the items or materials to you, if you agree to pay the market price for the items or materials.

## Burglary protection

If we have agreed to insure your contents only if burglary protection devices are installed, then this will be shown on your Policy Schedule.

If any of these devices is removed, altered, or left inoperative while you are absent from the site, without our prior consent, we may have the right to:

- decline, or
- reduce

a claim to which this action contributes.

Please see your Policy Schedule for details.

## Care and maintenance

If you do not take reasonable care to:

- protect and maintain the property insured
- prevent damage or injury to others or their property
- minimise the cost of any claim under this Policy, or
- comply with all statutory obligations and by-laws or regulations relating to the safety of person or property

we will not pay for loss, damage, liability or injury to which this failure to take reasonable care contributes.

## Adjustment of premium on renewal

If a claim occurs in the previous period of insurance and you do not notify us until after the premium for the current period of insurance was calculated, then you must pay any additional premium that would have been calculated had you told us about the claim on the day that the claim occurred. This condition does not affect any other rights that we have, including the rights that we have under "Your Duty of Disclosure".

## Strata title mortgagee's interest

This cover applies only if you have arranged this Policy to insure only the interest of a mortgagee in a strata title unit.

This cover only applies when you own part of a building that has been subdivided into strata, community or similar title units and you have a mortgage on that part of the building.

We will pay the mortgagee the lowest of:

- (a) the sum insured shown on the Policy Schedule
- (b) the amount to repair the damage to a condition similar to but no better than when new
- (c) if the body corporate (or similar) partially covers the loss, then the difference between what the body corporate's insurance pays and the cost of the damage, or
- (d) the amount sufficient to discharge the mortgage held by you over the unit at the date of damage.

We pay only that part of the claim that applies to the interest of the mortgagee.

We only pay a claim if:

- (a) a claim would be payable under insured events (a) to (j) of this Policy (and not subject to any exclusion or other limitation in the Policy)
- (b) the Policy of the body corporate or similar does not apply or only partially covers the loss, and
- (c) the mortgagee requires you to discharge your mortgage.

If you have arranged this Policy to insure only the interest of a mortgagee in a strata title unit:

- (a) no additional benefits are payable under this Policy
- (b) no legal liability cover is provided, and
- (c) no Optional covers such as Domestic Workers Compensation, or Valuables cover are provided.

## Section 9: Claims

### What you must do

If an event happens which may give rise to a claim you must:

- take all reasonable precautions to prevent further loss, damage or liability
- notify the police immediately if any of your property is lost, stolen, or maliciously or intentionally damaged
- tell us or your Financial Services Provider as soon as possible. You will be provided with a claim form and advice on the procedure to follow
- supply us with all information we require to settle or defend the claim
- notify us of any other insurance covering the same loss, damage or liability
- co-operate with us fully in any action we take if we have a right to recover any money payable under this Policy from any other person
- advise us of your correct Australian Business Number & Taxable Percentage, if applicable. Any GST liability arising from your incorrect advice is payable by you. When we pay a claim, your GST status will determine the maximum amount we pay. We will (where relevant) pay you on your claim by reference to the GST exclusive amount of any supply made by any business of yours which is relevant to your claim.

In an emergency outside normal business hours you may ring our emergency service on 1800 023387 for assistance.

If in doubt at any time, ring us or your Financial Services Provider for advice.

### What you must not do

You must not:

- authorise repairs to or arrange replacement of any of the property insured in connection with any claim without our consent, other than emergency repairs necessary to prevent further loss. If we agree to pay your claim, we will pay for these repairs, but you must retain all receipts
- admit liability if an accident occurs which is likely to result in someone claiming against you.

### What we do

We may take over and conduct the defence or settlement of any claim or issue legal proceedings for damages. If we do this we will do it in your name. We have full discretion in the conduct of any legal proceedings and in the settlement of any claim. You must co-operate by giving us any statements, documents or assistance we require. This may include giving evidence in any legal proceedings.

### What can affect a claim

We will reduce the amount of a claim by the excess shown in the Policy Terms and Conditions or on the Policy Schedule.

We may refuse to pay a claim if you are in breach of your Duty of Disclosure or any of the conditions of this Policy, including any endorsements noted on or attached to the Policy Schedule.

We pay only once for loss or damage from the same event covered by this Policy even if it is covered under more than one section of the Policy.

We may be entitled to refuse to pay or to reduce the amount of a claim if:

- it is in any way fraudulent, or
- any fraudulent means or devices are used by you or anyone acting on your behalf to obtain any benefits under this Policy.