

# The AusAlert™ national test

Monday 27 July 2026

AusAlert is a new way to receive messages during disasters and emergencies. AusAlerts are sent to compatible mobile devices and they can help you, your family and your community make decisions quickly in an emergency.



AusAlert will be ready to use in October 2026. Before it launches, the system needs to be tested across Australia.

**This is called the AusAlert national test.**

## The AusAlert national test is on Monday 27 July 2026

AusAlert is being tested across Australia to make sure it works when people and communities need it.

On this day, you may receive a test alert if you have a compatible device.

## The AusAlert national test times

- **2:00 pm AEST** – Queensland, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, Victoria, Tasmania
- **1:30 pm ACST** – Northern Territory, South Australia, Broken Hill (NSW)
- **12:00 pm AWST** – Western Australia

## AusAlert emergency warnings

When there is an emergency, AusAlert will quickly send an alert to compatible devices like many mobile phones, tablets and smart watches.

This could be before or during natural hazards, like:

- bushfires
- floods
- cyclones
- tsunamis.

Emergencies can also include:

- health emergencies
- security incidents
- biosecurity incidents.

## What the AusAlert national test looks and sounds like

The AusAlert national test is an 'alert' rather than an SMS or text message.

If you receive an alert, it will show as a notification on your device's screen. It will also make your **device vibrate and play a loud siren-like sound for about 10 seconds**, even if you have it on silent or do not disturb.

The alert will show up during phone calls, while using apps, and on your lock screen. It stays until you close it.

## Compatible devices that may receive the AusAlert national test

Many newer phones may receive AusAlerts, including:

- iPhone 11 and up running iOS 16.4 or later
- Android 12 or later.

Some smart watches and tablets will also receive the AusAlert national test.

## This is just a test – you do not need to do anything

But in a real disaster, an AusAlert will let you know:

- the type of emergency
- where it is located
- how serious it is
- what to do.

It will also say:

- the emergency organisation that sent the AusAlert
- where to find more information.

## If you do not receive the AusAlert national test

**Don't worry – it is just a test.** Some older phones, tablets and smart watches may not receive the AusAlert national test. Maybe your device wasn't connected to a mobile tower at the time of the test.

If you like, fill in the 'I didn't receive a test alert' form at [ausalert.gov.au/feedback](https://ausalert.gov.au/feedback)

Depending on your device type and operating system, the test alert will look something like this:



## Getting ready for the AusAlert national test

The national test is a Critical Alert. These alerts stay turned on so urgent warnings can be received, even if your device is on 'silent' or 'do not disturb'.

If the sound may upset babies, children, Elders, or others nearby, switch your device off or use aeroplane mode before the test time. Leave it off for at least one hour.

## Driving during the AusAlert national test

If you are driving, keep your focus on the road. Check the message only when you have stopped your vehicle and it is safe and legal to do so.

## Keeping each other informed

Alerts are just one way to get emergency information. Many people also rely on family, friends, Elders, neighbours, local radio and community networks to stay informed.

Looking out for each other is an important part of staying safe.

For more information, visit [ausalert.gov.au](https://ausalert.gov.au)