

Introducing AusAlert™



This document is written in an easy-to-read way.



We use pictures to explain some ideas.



Some words are written in **bold**.
These words are the name of something.



Australian Government

The Australian Government wrote this document.

When you see 'we', it means **the Australian Government**.



You can ask for help to read this document.



A friend, family member or support person can help you.



This document is about **AusAlert**.



What is AusAlert?

AusAlert is Australia's national warning system for emergencies.



AusAlert can send messages to your:

- mobile phone
- smart watch
- tablet.

Why is AusAlert important?

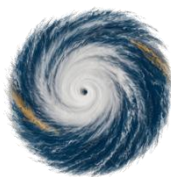
We send an **AusAlert** during emergencies.

Emergencies can be:

- bushfires



- floods



- cyclones



- places where people aren't safe



- a big health problem.



An **AusAlert** will tell you:

- who sent the message
- what the problem is
- where the problem is
- how serious the problem is
- where to get more information
- what you need to do next.



When does AusAlert start?

AusAlert starts in October 2026.



Have we tested AusAlert?

We tested **AusAlert** in chosen local communities across Australia in June 2026 to show it works like it is supposed to.



You can find out what communities were tested on this website:

www.ausalert.gov.au/alerts-explained/community-testing



We also tested **AusAlert** nationally on Monday 27 July 2026 as part of the **AusAlert** national test.

Many people in Australia got an **AusAlert** test alert during this testing phase.



You can find out more about the **AusAlert** national test on this website:
www.ausalert.gov.au/alerts-explained/national-test



What does an AusAlert look like?

An **AusAlert** will have some words in English.
It will show on your device screen.



What does an AusAlert sound like?

An **AusAlert** may:

- make your phone buzz or shake
- make a loud noise that sounds like a siren.



The sound will last for about 10 seconds before stopping.

How many types of AusAlert are there?



There are 2 levels of **AusAlert**.

The level depends on the danger.



Critical Alert

A **Critical AusAlert** is the highest warning.

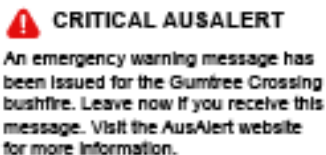
You may be in danger.

Act immediately.

Your device will vibrate and make a loud siren sound.

It will make this sound even if your device is set to 'silent' or 'do not disturb'.

You cannot turn off **Critical Alerts**.



Priority Alert

A **Priority AusAlert** means serious risk.

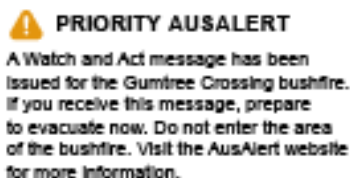
The situation may change quickly.

Be ready to act.

Your device may vibrate and make a loud siren sound depending on your device settings.

You will not hear this sound if your device is set to 'silent' or 'do not disturb'.

You can turn off **Priority Alerts**.





What should you do if you get an AusAlert message?

If you get an **AusAlert**, you should:

- read the message when safe
- tell people nearby
- ask for help if you need it
- follow the instructions
- check TV, radio, websites or apps for updates.

Doing what an **AusAlert** says will help keep you and others safe.

Does everyone have to get AusAlerts?

Getting an **AusAlert** may feel stressful.

Priority Alerts can be turned off.

AusAlerts contain life-saving information.

It is safest to keep alerts on.



You can turn **Priority Alerts** off in your device settings.

Find information about turning off **Priority Alerts** on this website:

www.ausalert.gov.au/receiving-alert/turning-alerts-off



What if you are driving or riding when you get an AusAlert?

If you get an **AusAlert** while driving or riding, stay calm.



The siren sound will stop after 10 seconds.



Do not look at or touch your phone until your vehicle is parked and turned off.



You can learn more about **AusAlert** on this website:

www.ausalert.gov.au



If you are a person living with disability, you can find **AusAlert** disability support information on this website:

www.ausalert.gov.au/community-resources/disabilities-extra-support

This Easy Read document was produced by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). If you have any questions, please email contact@nema.gov.au.

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