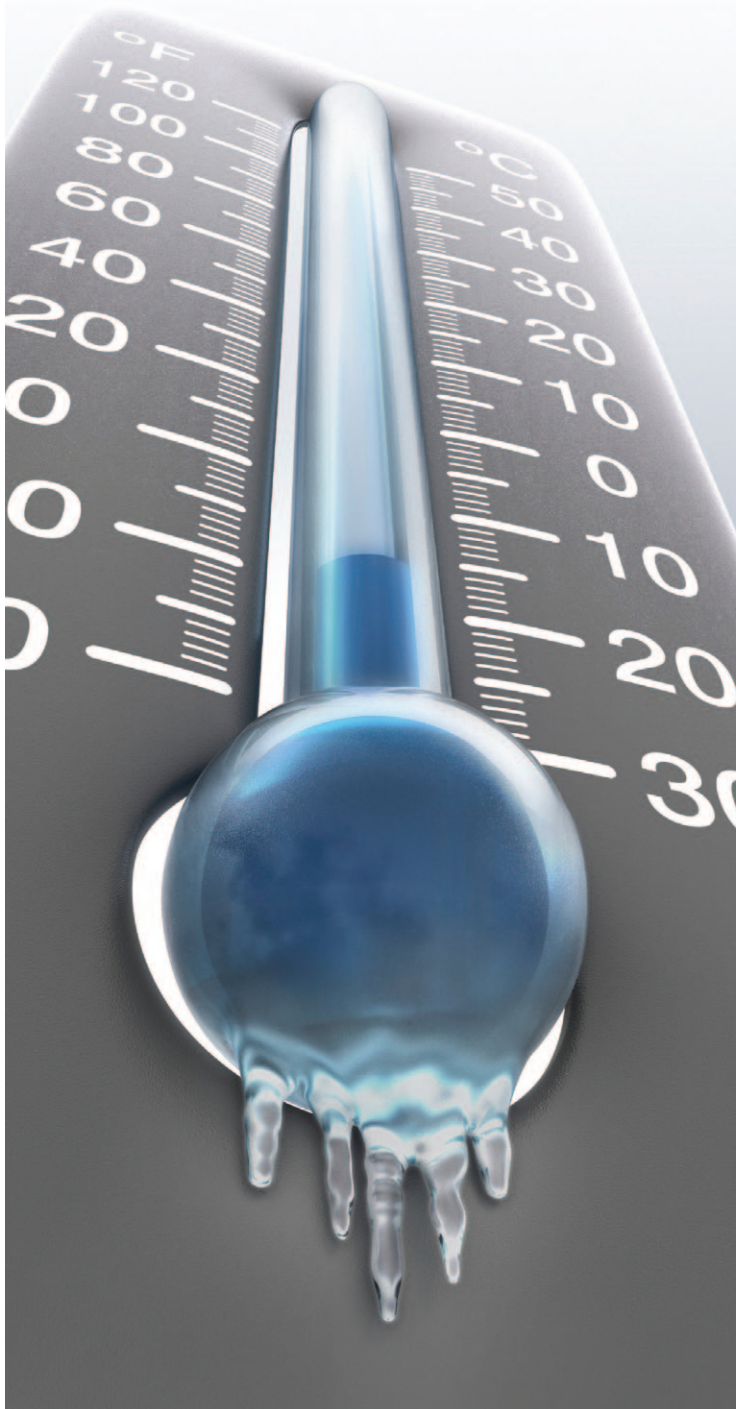


Don't get caught out by freezing weather this winter

Last year's prolonged big freeze affected thousands of homes, with freezing temperatures leading to burst pipes and property damage throughout the country. Escape of water can devastate a home and is one of the most common home insurance claims. By taking some simple steps you can protect your home.



Top tips for avoiding burst pipes

- Leave the heating on a minimum of 15c
- All pipes should be insulated with special attention given to those in the loft as these are the most likely to freeze. Leave the loft hatch open in severe cold weather to warm the room
- Insulate your cold water tank
- Make sure you, your family or anyone that is living with you know where your stopcock is so you can turn off the mains water supply in an emergency
- Turn off the water supply to outside taps

Leaving your home for an extended period this winter?

- Consider draining down your entire water system but get professional advice
- Turn off the main stopcock but keep your central heating system on to avoid water freezing in the pipes
- Have someone keep an eye on your home and let them know how to turn off the mains water supply in an emergency

Speak to your insurance broker for more information and advice about how this applies to your policy.

Please note that the information contained in this leaflet is advice only.