CHECKLIST · TECHNOLOGY

Some emergency alerts aren't texts any more. Here's how they reach you

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- [ ] **Update your phone and restart it.** AusAlert expects iPhone 11 or newer on iOS 26.4 or later, or Android 12 or later.
- [ ] **Check your AusAlert settings on iPhone.** Open Settings, then Notifications, and scroll to the bottom to check Priority AusAlert is on.
- [ ] **Check your AusAlert settings on Android.** Look under Settings, Safety and Emergency, Wireless Emergency Alerts (on some phones, Settings, Notifications).
- [ ] **Know where past alerts go.** On Android, open Emergency Alert History. On iPhone, a dismissed alert stays in Notification Centre only until you swipe it away.
- [ ] **Confirm your address with your telco.** The older Emergency Alert system warns phones and landlines partly based on the address in the national phone database.
- [ ] **Recognise the Emergency Alert number.** The ACT Emergency Services Agency says texts and calls from 0444 444 444 should be treated as genuine.
- [ ] **Be wary of any "alert" that asks you to click, pay or share details.** Real AusAlerts never ask for personal or financial details. Report it to Scamwatch.
- [ ] **Don't rely on an iPad.** iPads don't receive AusAlerts, so keep a compatible phone switched on during an emergency.
- [ ] **Save your state's emergency website or app.** Use it, with local radio, for updates after an alert arrives.

General information only, not legal, tax or financial advice. Check the full story and its sources before acting.