



**LOS ANGELES
FIRE
DEPARTMENT**
FOUNDATION

HOME HARDENING SAFETY TIPS

Help give firefighters a strong chance of defending your home during a wildfire. These steps will help you protect your property before the next fire threatens your neighborhood.



Drifting wildfire embers can destroy a home up to a mile away.

- Have a fire extinguisher, shovel, rake, bucket, and hose easily accessible in your garage.
- Keep rain gutters clear or enclose rain gutters to prevent accumulation of plant debris.
- Maintain driveways with a minimum of 10 feet of clearance on either side, allowing for two-way traffic.
- Cover all vent openings, chimneys, and stove pipes with metal mesh. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn.
- Install weather stripping around and under the garage door to prevent embers from blowing through gaps.
- Seal or repair any gaps between roofing materials to block-out embers.
- Install dual-paned windows with one pane of tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire.
- Patio covers and deck surfaces should be built with non-combustible, or other approved flame-resistant materials.
- For all external walls, use stucco, fiber cement siding, fire-retardant treated wood, or other non-combustible materials. Be sure materials extend from the foundation to the roof.
- Ensure all gates open inward and are wide enough to accommodate a fire engine.



For more information on home hardening, visit supportLAFD.org/preparedness.