

■ Home Insurance: 21 Mistakes to Avoid – Quick Checklist

This checklist is designed to help Indian homeowners avoid the most common mistakes when buying or renewing home insurance. Use it as a practical reference before you purchase, update, or claim on your policy.

1.	Renew or update your policy regularly after renovations or lifestyle changes.
2.	Check if your cover includes rent loss or alternative accommodation expenses.
3.	Insure not just the structure but also electronics, furniture, and jewellery.
4.	Choose insurers with a strong claim settlement record.
5.	Don't pick policies only for the cheapest premium – check coverage depth.
6.	Ensure natural disasters like floods, earthquakes, and cyclones are covered.
7.	Update sum insured for rising construction and material costs.
8.	Review add-ons for theft, burglary, liability, or accidental damage.
9.	Maintain bills, valuations, and photos of valuables.
10.	Add liability coverage for damage to neighbours or third parties.
11.	Review your policy annually; don't treat it as a one-time purchase.
12.	Base cover on rebuilding cost, not property market price.
13.	Remember: land value is not covered under insurance.
14.	Avoid appliance breakdown cover unless you keep invoices.
15.	Ensure home ownership and content ownership details are aligned.
16.	Record a video of your belongings and store it safely in the cloud.
17.	Ask insurers about discounts for fire safety systems and precautions.
18.	Know how to report fire incidents and get official fire brigade/FIR reports.
19.	Understand the fire claim process and report promptly.
20.	Insure all properties you own, not just your primary residence.
21.	Consult a qualified insurance advisor for customised comprehensive cover.

■ **Keep this checklist handy. Reviewing these points annually ensures your policy always protects your most valuable asset – your home.**