



# Proper Use of Sandbags

Filling sandbags is a two-person operation. Bags should be filled from **1/2** to **2/3** of their capacity for best stacking capability.

Sandbags are intended to defend homes and structures in their immediate vicinity. Sandbags **are not** intended to prevent water from coming onto property lines or to be placed in yards or city streets – this may divert water onto a neighbor’s property or other important areas.

HOW TO FILL A SANDBAG



## Sandbag Placement on Exterior Doorways and Vents



Line the bottom of any exterior doorway, including garage doors, that may be at risk from flood water.



Plastic tarp

Consider using plastic tarps between sandbags and doorways.

(Credit: Santa Clara Valley Water District)

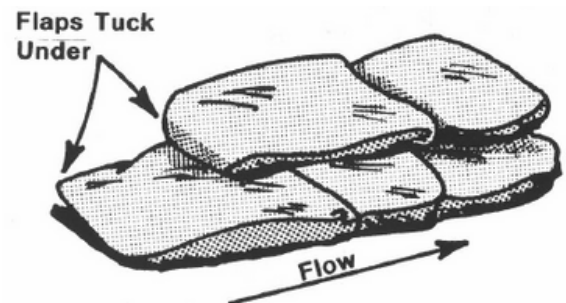


Place in front of vents or windows near the building's foundation.

**(Note: Sealing foundation vents can prohibit air circulation and encourage mold/mildew growth)**

## Multiple Sandbag Layers - Pyramid Placement Method

Add additional sandbag layers as water levels increase. The pyramid placement method works well for this. Place multiple filled bags, as shown in the graphic, lengthwise and in the direction of the water flow. Be sure to tuck any flaps under the weight of the bag.



**Disclaimer:** Clean up and disposal of sandbags is the responsibility of the homeowner.

For more information on current flood conditions, please visit:

[adacounty.id.gov/emergencymanagement/how-to-prepare-resources/flood/](http://adacounty.id.gov/emergencymanagement/how-to-prepare-resources/flood/)