



Prepare and Share Kit Drive

What it is Prepare and Share is a kit drive activity in which essential preparedness items are collected, assembled in a pack and delivered to those who need it most.

How it helps Having a preparedness kit is a simple way to ensure that you have vital items available in case of a disaster. It can be especially useful for people who are most vulnerable during this time, such as the elderly, people with special needs or those with language barriers. By participating in this activity, you are equipping people with necessities that can make all the difference should an emergency occur.

Get started Contact your local Red Cross chapter or Service to the Armed Forces station for guidance. They will help you with planning and will point you to useful resources, including a list of preparedness kit items. Before beginning the drive, complete these three simple steps:

- 1 Make a decision on where to deliver the kits. Some places that would most benefit from this activity include food banks, shelters, churches and retirement homes. Get in touch with the specific place and set up a delivery date.
- 2 Determine how items will be collected. You may want to place collection boxes at various places in your school or around the community. Provide a list of suggested items. You'll also want to consider what kind of container you will use to package the kits. Plastic storage bags offer a cheap solution.
- 3 Set a time frame for collection. One or two weeks should be plenty. The period should end with members of your group and other participating organizations assembling the kits.

**Want more information?
Email us!**

youthinvolvement@redcross.org

DID YOU KNOW?

**Only 28%
of American
households have
preparedness kits.**

What next?

Now that the ground work has been laid, it's time to have the drive. Here's the rest of what you need to do:

- Place your collection boxes out at the determined locations. Attach the list of items needed to the front of the boxes so that donors know what to give. To really make a big impact, talk to churches and community centers about partnering with you, so you can have boxes in more locations.
- Get the word out about your drive. See if your school's administration can offer publicity in the school announcements or on bulletin boards. If your group has social media pages, update your statuses with information about the drive, including types of items needed and drop-off locations. Be sure that you have a printed list of needed items to give away to participants, as well.
- Once the collection period has ended, gather your club members or other volunteers to put the kits together. When assembling the kits, make sure that each has the same number and types of items. Try to make this meeting fun by providing snacks, games or music.
- On the designated day, deliver the kits to the location that you selected. Bring additional Red Cross information, and take the time to talk with people and educate them about Red Cross services.

By the end of your activity, you will have greatly helped high-risk individuals become more prepared for a disaster. Build on this achievement and check out the other activity guides available to help you make even more impact!

Before beginning, get in touch with your local Red Cross chapter or station for assistance. You can find contact information at **redcross.org**.

SHAKE IT UP!

- » Tie your kit drive to National Preparedness Month or a Disaster Speaks event.
- » Partner with other student organizations to make your drive even bigger.

SHOW AND TELL

- » Download the Red Cross preparedness apps and share them with your friends and family! Go to **redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps**.
- » Share your pictures and videos of your Preparedness Week by sending them to **youthinvolvement@redcross.org**.
- » Do you know about Schooltube? Share a video of your activity at **schooltube.com**. Include the name of the activity in the title of your video.

RESOURCES

- » List of suggested items