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# HOME safe Home

by ANG BEE LIN

**With the wide variety of insurance plans available, here's what you need to know about protecting your home**

Buying a home is one of the most significant investment purchases you will ever make. It is also the place that holds your most valuable and memorable items — which is why having the right home insurance plan is a necessity.

Home insurance should not be confused with fire insurance. While the latter compensates for damage to your home's original structures, it does not protect what is in your home — which can range from your furniture, appliances, personal belongings and pets to the \$80,000 renovation work you splurged on.

In other words, home insurance only provides full coverage for the physical damage or loss of all your possessions.

Many forego buying insurance policies either due to a lack of knowledge or confusion over what is required. Experts recommend that homeowners, landlords or renters arm themselves with some sort of coverage, however minimal, so they won't be left unprotected.

“A good home insurance plan should cater to your needs and address your concerns and be easily understood. Information such as coverage amount and exclusions should also be clearly spelt out. Besides looking out for the right plan, choose a reliable insurer you can trust, and who can provide efficient and quick claims experience.”

Ms Jazzreal Wong,  
head of direct business,  
Etiqa Insurance Singapore

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