PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

What are the best lights for a power cut? Torches and lanterns

The best single light for a power cut is a rechargeable LED lantern with a proper low setting, because it lights a whole room hands-free. Add a head torch for each adult, a torch by every bed and at the fuse box, and an automatic light on the stairs. The government's Be Ready advice is that torches are safer than candles, so keep candles as a last resort.

- [ ] Buy one LED lantern with a low setting for the main room
- [ ] Give every adult a head torch and every child a small torch
- [ ] Keep a torch at the fuse box and one by the front door
- [ ] Fit an automatic power cut light at the top of the stairs
- [ ] Put a torch in each bedside drawer
- [ ] Keep a pack of glow sticks or LED tea lights for the bathroom and stairs
- [ ] Standardise on AA or AAA cells and keep one full change per light
- [ ] Top up rechargeable lights every three to six months
- [ ] Give every light a fixed home and tell everyone where
- [ ] Test your battery smoke alarms
- [ ] Keep candles as a last resort only, never unattended
- [ ] Check every light when the clocks change