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Although extended deployments are never easy on the family, the hardships need not be increased by Failure to plan ahead. A carefully prepared and executed predeployment checklist can save you and your family from giant headaches in the future. It is very important for you, as a military family, to have certain documents in your possession. Military spouses are often required to take over the family during the sponsor's absence; therefore, it is important that both of you sit down together to gather information and documents named in this checklist. You are encouraged to keep originals or copies of all listed documents in a special container (safety deposit box) in a location you can find immediately and is known to both you and the sponsor.

Soldiers Orders	
Marriage Certificate	
Birth Certificates of all family members:	
Wife	
Husband	
Children	
Divorce Papers	
Death Certificates	
VALID PASSPORTS	
Medical (Shot) and Dental Records of all fami	ly members (including pets)
Citizenship/Naturalization papers	
Adoption Papers	
Insurance policies (Note: Company, Policy # a	,
Real Estate Documents (leases, mortgages, o	
Copies of installment contracts and loan pape	
Current list of immediate next of kin, person	nal lawyer, trusted friend (include
phone # and address)	
Car title (registration should be in car)	
Last LES (Leave Earning Statement)	
Social Security Number of each family member	
Current address and telephone numbers of im	imediate family members
NOTES	

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The Following Should be Completed Prior to Deployment Next of kin informed of rights, benefits, assistance available Family budget and business arranged (See Financial Section for Budget
Family budget and business arranged (See Financial Section for Budget
Worksheet) Emergency Data Card updated in Military Personnel Record Joint checking/savings account arranged (List-all account numbers) Parents informed of how to make contact in case of emergency Armed Forces ID Cards (Renew if ID Card expires within next 3 months. Rea Detachment Commander can sign for ID Replacement after soldier deploys) Emergency services explained and located: Red Cross/ Army Emergency Relief (AER) Army Community Service (ACS) Legal Assistance Office Security check on house Problems with cars, household, and appliances identified and resolved
Power of attorney
GENERAL: Allows holder to act in all matters on sponsor's behalf SPECIAL: Allows holder to act on sponsor's behalf in special transactions. MEDICAL: Authorizes holder to obtain medical care for family members under 18 years of age. Wills for both spouses Orders
Copy of Emergency Data Card
List of all credit cards and account numbers AAFES Deferred Payment Plan (DPP), (to use, spouse must be listed as a authorized user or hold sponsor's General Power of Attorney). Federal and State Income Tax Returns (last 5 years)
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HOUSE CARE CHECKLIST

Take a 10 minute walk through your house. Carry this checklist to help you truly see your home. The idea behind this walk is to look for fire hazards. You don't have any? Are you sure? Perhaps this list will change your mind.

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SELF CHECK:
Do you know where the electrical box (fuse/circuit box) is and how to Replace fuses?
Do you know the location and procedure of shutting off water/gas Master Control values in case of broken or leaking pipes? Do you inspect electrical cords frequently and keep them in good condition? Do you use extension cords only for temporary convenience? never as permanent wiring?
YES/NO
Does everyone in the family know how to call the fire department or dial the operator?
Does each telephone have the fire, police, and ambulance numbers close to it?
Does your family have a fire escape plan and has your family drilled with it? Do you make sure your children are not left unattended and instruct baby sitters about emergency procedures?
NOW IT IS TIME TO ADD UP YOUR ANSWERS. To how many of the questions did you answer "NO" to - one or two? Your home is pretty fire safe. But remember, just one can cause a tragedy! If you had 5 or 6, you are risking the safety of your family. If you have more than 6, you are asking for trouble. Take action NOW! SMOKE DETECTORS
Buy a battery-operated smoke detector. It is one of the best and most inexpensive forms of fire insurance. It will not prevent a fire from starting, but it may save your life! Be sure to check the smoke detector on a regular basis. HOME TOOL KIT
Flashlight and extra batteries Hammer Assorted Nails, screws and tacks Screwdrivers Masking Tape Scissors and/or knife Pliers Wrench Furnace Filters Extra light bulbs

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FINANCIAL
Who will have the checkbook and who will have the cash card? Plan on paying
bills timely.
What types of accounts does the family have with what banks? Do the current
accounts allow family members access to funds?
Where are the bank books and account numbers?
Are all the credit card numbers written down and in a safe place? Are the
numbers and company addresses recorded in case of loss or theft?
Are you knowledgeable about check writing? How will you determine if there are
insufficient funds and what is your plan in case this happens?
If allotments or check to the bank are delayed who can you contact?
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