

**Resilience works:**

Home retrofitted

**Typology:** Brick veneer  
apartment complex

Several homeowners in this townhouse complex in Brisbane's western suburbs have taken significant steps to make their properties more flood resilient after devastating floods in 2011 and 2022.

The complex comprises over 50 townhouses, mostly two-storey, with some single-level units. In 2011, riverine floodwaters reached the second storey of most townhouses. While the 2022

[getready.qld.gov.au/strengthen-your-home](https://getready.qld.gov.au/strengthen-your-home)

flood levels were lower, some properties were still inundated, with water rising just below the second level.

In response, about half of the property owners have either undertaken or are exploring flood-resilience upgrades.

These measures include replacing carpet with tiles, installing water-resistant cabinetry in kitchens, bathrooms and laundries, using water-resilient wall linings and raising essential services such as air-conditioning units and electrical switchboards.

The property manager noted that many homeowners are preparing for future floods, recognising the likelihood of recurring events.

One resident, who owns a single-level townhouse, initially replaced damaged materials like-for-like after the 2011 flood, reinstating plasterboard walls and carpet. However, after the 2022 floods, he opted for resilient upgrades.

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– Homeowner