

A Quick View of Earthquake Preparedness

Before

1. Identify safe spots in each room. Practice earthquake drills: Drop, Cover, and Hold on!
2. Secure water heaters, other gas appliances, and top-heavy furniture.
3. Place latches on cabinets.
4. Place a wrench near the main gas shutoff.
5. Store shoes or slippers, a flashlight, and a bottle of water under each bed.
6. Do not place beds near: chimneys, shelves, large windows, large pictures or mirrors.

During

1. Hear sound and feel vibration.
2. Do not run outside.
3. Take cover:
 - under beds, tables, desks
 - next to interior walls, beds, couches
 - in or next to bathtubs
 - Inside: stay away from windows, door frames, shelves, mirrors, chimneys, light fixtures, large appliances or furniture pieces, and staircases.
 - Outside: stay away from buildings, trees, power lines, underpasses, overpasses, and bridges. Stay in the car.
4. Cover your face. Shield your head with a coat, blanket, etc.

After

1. Check for injuries and administer first aid.
2. Wear heavy shoes and gloves.
3. Do not light a flame or use light switches, telephones, or electrical equipment until the gas has been turned off.
4. Shut off: electricity, water, and gas. (Gas: use a wrench to turn the valve $\frac{1}{4}$ turn. Wait for a professional to turn it back on.)
5. Check for: fires, downed utility lines, structural damage, and chemical spills.
6. Open closets and cupboards carefully.
7. Tape windows and cover furniture with blankets or cardboard to protect against further damage.
8. Be prepared for aftershocks.