

HOME MATTERS

Provided by: Huckaby & Associates

Be Prepared

Earthquakes, one of Mother Nature's most unsettling phenomena, are unpredictable and can strike without warning. That's why it's important for you and your family to learn how to prepare for an earthquake, and develop a plan to react quickly and safely if a disaster strikes.

EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS TIPS

Preparing for an Earthquake:

- Locate and learn how to use the shutoff valves for water, gas and electricity in your home.
- Prepare an emergency earthquake kit with warm clothing, non-perishable food items and bottled water to last you and your family for at least 72 hours.
- Bolt down and secure to the wall studs your water heater, refrigerator, furnace and gas appliances.
- Hold earthquake drills with your family members: Drop, cover and hold on!

During an Earthquake:

- Remain inside of your home and seek shelter under a heavy table or desk, brace yourself inside a doorframe or inside wall.
- Stay at least 15 feet away from windows and out of kitchens and garages, if possible.
- Stay under the structure that is protecting you. If the shaking causes the table or desk to move, then you should move with it so you remain protected.
- Do not panic, and anticipate what you should do next to remain safe.

Source: FEMA

Safety First

Follow these guidelines to remain safe after the ground stops shaking:

- Remain in your safe location for several minutes in case there are any aftershocks.
- Do not leave your home unless it is absolutely necessary to do so.
- Check your family members for injuries and administer first aid.
- Establish a temporary shelter area in your home away from areas that have severe damage.

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