

Earthquake



PROCEDURES

An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the Earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the Earth's surface. Earthquakes strike suddenly, without warning, and can occur at any time of the year and at any time of the day or night. On a yearly basis, 70 to 75 damaging earthquakes occur throughout the world.

There are 45 states and territories in the United States at moderate to very high risk from earthquakes, and they are in every region of the country.

CHECKLIST

DURING AND AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

DURING AN EARTHQUAKE	YES	NO	N/A
Stay indoors and take cover. The best protection during an earthquake is to get under heavy furniture such as a desk, table, or bench. Hold on to the furniture for safety and support, and do not try to leave during the earthquake since objects and walls may be falling.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stay in the open if you are outdoors. Move away from buildings, streetlights, and utility poles. Do not try to seek shelter in buildings or cars.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stop your vehicle. Do not exit the vehicle, and try to stay away from buildings, trees, overpasses, or utility wires. Proceed with caution once the shaking stops, especially near bridges and ramps.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE	YES	NO	N/A
Expect aftershocks. Aftershocks are smaller earthquakes that follow the main shock and can cause further damage to weakened buildings. Aftershocks can occur in the first hours, days, weeks or even months after the quake. Be aware that some earthquakes are foreshocks, and a larger earthquake might occur.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn off the gas supply. Propane tanks can break free of their supporting legs if they are not anchored properly, increasing the risk of a fire or an explosion. Make sure Emergency Response Team knows how to shut off the gas supply in the case of a gas leak.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If the power is out, use flashlights, not candles, lanterns, torches, or matches to examine buildings. Flammables or natural gas may be inside.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Response Team will help injured or trapped persons and administer first aid when necessary. Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Get necessary medical care by calling emergency personnel or by going to the nearest hospital.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stay out of damaged buildings. Return to the Practice Location only when authorities say it is safe to do so.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use the telephone only for emergency calls. Do not tie up lines since they may be needed by emergency personnel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>