

Earthquake preparation checklist

You can use this online checklist as guide to prepare and secure your home and potentially minimise any damage caused by an earthquake.

CREATE AN EMERGENCY & EVACUATION PLAN

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Develop an evacuation plan specific to your home and local area. | <input type="checkbox"/> Practise Drop, Cover, Hold on once or twice a year with your family – especially if you live in an earthquake-prone area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Identify the safest routes to community support centres. | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm the contact details of friends, schools, family and people in your support network. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Establish or confirm your household's safe meeting point. | <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure your emergency kit can be easily and safely reached. |

AROUND THE HOME

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Safely secure any heavy furniture or appliances to prevent them from falling. | <input type="checkbox"/> Safely secure your water heater with a wide metal strap around the top and attach to wall studs. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have your roof checked annually by a qualified trades person to detect any pre-existing damage and/or repairs that may be needed. | <input type="checkbox"/> If you live in an earthquake-prone area, it could be worth adding earthquake-resistant features to your home, such as reinforced walls and foundations. |

IN THE HOME

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Safely secure heavy or tall furniture to the walls – including shelves, cabinets, and bookcases. | <input type="checkbox"/> Store heavy and fragile items on lower shelves (under 1.5 metres). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Store all chemicals, poisons, and flammable products in a secure cabinet with latches. | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep an in-date fire extinguisher accessible in case of a fire during or after an earthquake. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Familiarise yourself with how to turn off water, gas, electricity, and air-conditioning at your property. | |

CHECK YOUR EMERGENCY KIT

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Pack enough drinking water and non-perishable food for three days.

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Pack toiletries and towels.

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Pack your devices and chargers.

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Pack important documents and valuables, including cash.

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Have a first aid kit ready.

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Pack a torch with spare batteries.

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Organise hand sanitiser and face masks.

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Don't forget any medication and scripts.

Staying safe is your priority. You can start your claim process after the earthquake has passed.

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