

FLASH

cards



Protect your contents

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FEDERAL ALLIANCE FOR SAFE HOMES

Earthquake

During an earthquake, home furnishings and contents can collapse or fall and cause injury. Keep your family safe by following these steps: Look Up, Look Around, Look Down.

Look Up

- Support ceiling fans and light pendants with the use of bracing wire secured to a screw eye embedded at least an inch into the ceiling joist.
- Brace masonry chimneys back to the roof joists or reinforce roof sheathing to protect the home from falling masonry.

Look Around

- Anchor the tops of bookcases, file cabinets and entertainment centers to one or more studs with flexible fasteners to prevent tipping.
- Secure loose shelving by screwing into the cabinet or with museum putty placed at each corner bracket.
- Secure china, collectibles, trophies and other shelf items with museum putty.
- Install a lip or blocking device to prevent books or other articles from falling off shelves.
- Secure televisions, computers and stereos with buckles and safety straps that also allow easy removal and relocation.
- Install latches on cabinet doors to prevent them from opening and spilling out their contents.
- Hang mirrors, pictures and plants using closed hooks to prevent items from falling.
- Cover windows with approved shatter-resistant safety film to protect against broken glass.

Look Down

- Ensure appliances have flexible gas or electrical connections.
- Strap the top and bottom of a water heater using heavy-gauge metal strapping secured to wall studs.
- Locate your gas shutoff valve and ensure you know how to turn off the gas supply to your home with the use of a suitable wrench.
- Relocate flammable liquids to a garage or outside storage location.

Protect your home in a *FLASH* with
the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes!