

27 Things to Help You Survive An Earthquake

Californians are constantly aware of the potential of an earthquake creating damage and dangerous conditions. If we don't properly prepare, the next quake may cause greater personal damage than necessary. •The items listed below won't stop the next earthquake, but they may help you survive in a better way.

3 Things You Need to Know

1. How to turn off gas, water and electricity.
2. First aid.
3. Plan for reuniting your family.

4 Basics to Do During an Earthquake

1. STAY CALM.
2. Inside: Stand in a doorway, or crouch under a desk, table, or in a corner, away from windows or glass dividers.
3. Outside: Stand away from buildings, trees, telephone and electric lines.
4. On the road: Drive away from underpasses/overpasses; stop in safe area; stay in vehicle.

6 Basics to Do After an Earthquake

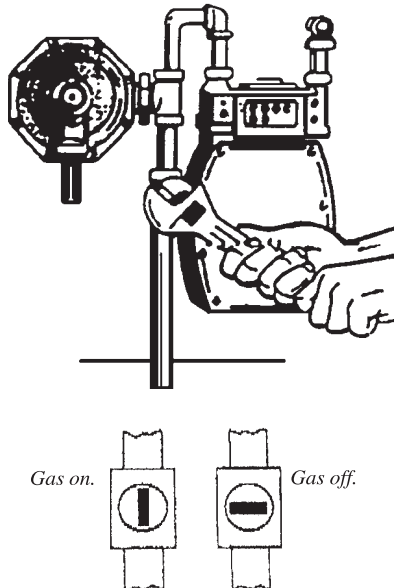
1. Check for injuries -- provide first aid.
2. Make safety inspection,
 - Check for gas, water, sewage breaks.
 - Look for downed electric lines and shorts.

-Turn off appropriate utilities.
-Check for building damage and potential safety problems during after shocks, such as cracks around chimney and foundation.

3. Clean up dangerous spills.
4. Wear heavy-soled shoes to avoid cuts from broken glass.
5. Turn on radio and listen for instructions from public safety agencies.
6. Use the telephone only for emergencies.

If You Smell Gas

Your gas can be turned off at the main shut-off valve next to your gas meter. Using a wrench or other suitable tool, give the valve a quarter turn in either direction; the valve is closed when the tang (the part you put the wrench on) is crosswise to the pipe. (See illustration.)



14 Survival Items to Keep on Hand

1. Portable radio and flashlight with extra batteries.
2. Earthquake straps around your water heater.
3. First Aid Kit - including specific medicines needed for members of your household and first aid instructions.
4. Survival guide in telephone book.
5. Fire extinguisher.
6. Adjustable wrench for turning off gas and water if evidence of leak.
7. Smoke detector properly installed.
8. Portable fire escape ladder for homes/apartments with multiple floors.
9. Bottled water sufficient for each member of household.
10. Canned and dried foods sufficient for a week for each member of household. Note: Both water and food should be rotated into normal meals so as to keep freshness. Canned goods have a normal shelf-life of one year for maximum freshness.
11. •Non-electric can opener.
12. Portable stove such as butane or charcoal. Note: Use of such stove should not take place until it is determined that there is no gas leak in the area. Charcoal should be burned only out of doors. Use of charcoal indoors will lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.
13. Matches.
14. Telephone numbers of police, fire, doctor and local PG&E office.