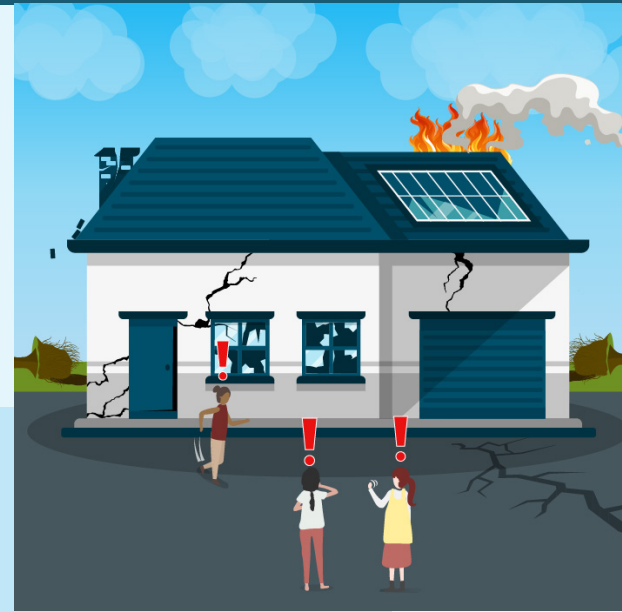


19 Easy, Do-It-Yourself Home Safety Projects

Has your time at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic inspired you to do projects? If you're looking for the next project to tackle, make your home safer for an earthquake! Here are 19 projects you can do to secure your space.



1. Move heavy objects to lower places
2. Clear stairwells of clutter
3. Strap the water heater tank to the wall
4. Remove objects above beds
5. Move beds away from windows
6. Secure ceiling fans and hanging lights with closed links
7. Keep a fire extinguisher accessible
8. Securely fasten or double-hang mirrors and pictures
9. Use museum putty or Velcro to secure vases and breakables
10. Store shoes, gloves, and a flashlight beneath beds
11. Store household chemicals near or on the floor
12. Secure objects on shelves to prevent falling
13. Practice how to drop, cover, and hold on
14. Place stoppers against refrigerator wheels
15. Identify where and how to turn off natural gas
16. Strap down TVs and other electronics
17. Strap bookshelves and tall furniture to the wall
18. Install earthquake latches on cupboards
19. Consider purchasing earthquake insurance

Other earthquake safety projects are just as important but will take more planning. Securing brick chimneys and other unreinforced masonry, bolting your home to the foundation, and installing flexible utility pipes are a few examples; find a local contractor to help with these types of projects. Visit this website to get started:

www.wabo.org/earthquake-home-retrofit. For more information on being safer at home, visit www.earthquakecountry.org/sevensteps/.

mil.wa.gov/earthquake

