

PREPARE IN A YEAR PLAYBOOK



PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

Estimated Completion Time

This presentation can be customized to fit your needs and time allowance. Ideally 30 minutes.

- 20 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes of questions
- 15 minutes of presentation and 15 minutes of questions

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this presentation the audience will be able to:

- Identify potential home hazards
- Identify if your home is structurally sound

The topics that will be discussed in this unit are:

- Identify potential home hazards
- Learn about structurally sound homes

Setting the Stage

Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Idaho have the potential of being impacted by major disasters such as earthquakes. Let's take the time to identify and fix potential household hazards.

Buildings — and their contents — are vulnerable to rocking and rolling caused by earthquakes. Fortunately, experts teach how to secure homes to their foundations and contents to wall studs.

Check with your local building departments on regulations.

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Slide 1

Insert your Agency logo on the first slide



Slide 2

Talk about what are some of the potential hazards that they may find in their home.

Look at tall bookcases and shelves. How much would fall off the shelves?

Would the whole bookcase topple, or is it anchored to the wall?

Anchor bookcases and other top-heavy furniture to wall studs using flexible fasteners (e.g., nylon straps) and lag screws.

Add bracing to support air conditioners, particularly on rooftops.



Do you have hanging light fixtures or plants?

Could they swing and hit a window or swing off their hooks?

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	<p>As a minimum precaution, transfer hanging plants from heavy clay pots to lighter ones and use closed hooks on all hanging items.</p> <p>Check for possible flying glass.</p> <p>Replace glass bottles in the medicine cabinet and around the bathtub and shower with plastic containers.</p> <p>What kind of latches are on your kitchen cabinets?</p> <p>Consider replacing magnetic "touch" latches with ones that will hold the cabinet doors shut during an earthquake.</p> <p>In some cases, a lip or low barrier across shelves may prevent breakables from sliding out.</p> <p>Anchor heavy mirrors and pictures over beds, chairs, and couches with wire through eye screws into studs.</p> <p>Locate beds away from windows.</p>
<div data-bbox="279 1486 857 1812" style="background-color: #e0f2f1; padding: 10px;"> <p>Home Hazard Hunt </p> <p>Potential home hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your water heater. Is it securely fastened to the wall studs with heavy-metal strapping at the top and bottom? Do not use metal plumber's tape. • Does your water heater have flexible water and gas connectors? • Tall pieces of furniture are especially vulnerable in earthquakes. Identify each bookcase, cabinet and armoire which needs fastening. • Identify heavy or breakable objects on high shelves. Pay special attention to objects with sentimental value. Move heavy objects to lower shelves. <p></p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">Slide 3</p> <p>Water heaters should be braced. There are many solutions - all relatively inexpensive.</p> <p>Purchase a install strap kit or bracing kit from your local hardware store.</p> <p>Other options include:</p>

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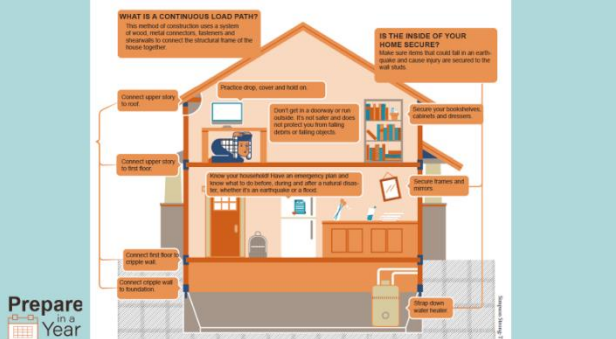

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	<p>Have a licensed plumber strap your water heater according to code.</p> <p>Use heavy metal strapping and screws to secure the water heater to the wall studs.</p> <p>Follow these important guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure all tall, top-heavy furniture such as bookcases, wall units, and entertainment case centers. <p>Attach them securely to the wall studs with straps.</p> <p>Secure the top, on both the right and left sides of the unit, into wall studs.</p>
<div data-bbox="284 1178 818 1474"> <p>Home Hazard Hunt </p> <p>Potential home hazards continued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify electronics, microwaves and other small appliances that need to be secured. • Identify hanging objects, especially plants in heavy baskets and hanging lights near windows. • Identify mirrors, framed artwork and other heavy hanging objects which needs to be secured to the wall studs. Pay special attention to items hung over beds. • Identify kitchen, bedroom, and garage cabinets that need to be secured to keep their contents inside during the ground shaking. <p>Prepare in a Year</p> </div>	<p>Slide 4</p> <p>Prevent wall hangings from bouncing off walls.</p> <p>Secure mirrors, pictures, plants, and other objects on closed hooks.</p> <p>Secure the bottom corners with earthquake putty or adhesive pads.</p> <p>Place only soft art such as tapestries over beds and sofas.</p>

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<p>Home Hazard Hunt </p> <p>Potential home hazards continued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the foundation of your home. Is your home securely fastened to it? Check with your local city or county office, which issues building permits, for regulations. • Does your chimney have loose bricks? • Has your attic been reinforced with plywood to help prevent chimney bricks from falling into living areas? • Identify poisons, toxics, or solvents in breakable containers that are located in high or dangerous locations, house, garage and sheds. <p>Prepare in a Year</p>	<p>Slide 5</p> <p>Homes that are tied together from the roof to the foundation are much more likely to remain standing during an earthquake.</p> <p>This creates a continuous load path that helps hold the house together.</p> <p>Most newer homes are built with a continuous load path, which is like a chain that ties the house together from the roof to the foundation.</p>
 <p>Prepare in a Year</p>	<p>Slide 6</p> <p>Discuss the different areas within the home structure.</p>
<p>Home Hazard Hunt </p> <p>Use the Web</p> <p>Local Resources</p> <p>Prepare in a Year</p>	<p>Slide 7</p> <p>Talk about your local resources as well as resources that are available on the internet.</p>