

2 Earthquake Safety
9 Some Rumbblings on preparing for an EARTHQUAKE

23 If you're like most people, after every California earthquake you tell yourself, "I'm going
30 to get prepared for the next one."

38 Then you don't do a thing about it.

55 Well, now you can do something about it. Just by reading this page, doing what it says,
58 and saving it.

69 Many earthquake experts in Southern California recommend the following tips to
78 minimize the damage in the event of an earthquake.

- 92 1. Put together a list of basic earthquake supplies. Include a portable radio, extra
107 batteries, a first aid kit and handbook, wrenches to turn off gas and water valves,
122 and food, water and medication for every member of your family for at least one
123 week.
- 139 2. Secure your hot water heater. If your hot water heater falls during an earthquake,
155 the gas line can rupture and create sparks which can lead to a fire or explosion.
- 172 3. Know where your gas, electric and water main shut offs are and how to shut them
173 off.
- 185 4. Secure your tall and heavy furniture. Bookcases, entertainment centers and china
193 cabinets can easily fall over during an earthquake.
- 209 5. Put some extra nails in heavy objects that are off the floor, such as shelves,
214 mirrors and large picture frames.
- 229 6. Hunt for hazard areas in your home. Teach your children to stay away from
234 windows, mirrors and tall furniture.
- 251 7. Search for a safe place in your home. Show your children how to take cover under
258 a table, desk, or against inside walls.
- 273 8. Have a plan to reunite your family after an earthquake. Travel may be difficult
289 and phone lines may be down, so don't drive or call anyone unless it's a real
290 emergency.
- 300 9. Check for injury or damage after the shaking stops.

306 10. Above all, do not panic.

319 Practicing earthquake drills with your entire family and being prepared with the above
331 instructions will put you in a safer position during any ground motion.
348 Stop grumbling about how you're going to get ready for the next one. Prepare for it today.
364 The County of Los Angeles has an earthquake survival program (ESP) with easy monthly
366 preparedness steps.
386 For more information, call the Office of Emergency Management (323)980-2260 or visit
398 the ESP website at www.espfocus.org