

In Case of Earthquake



~10 Steps to Safety (Learn what to do when the time comes)~

1. ***First, check your surroundings***

Take measures to make sure your furniture and belongings won't fall on you in the event of an earthquake.

2. ***Quickly turn off fire sources.***

If you feel any shaking, quickly turn off any open flames and gas valves. Don't place highly flammable objects near flame sources.

3. ***Open your door and be sure you have an exit.***

Earthquakes can prevent doors from opening. Make sure you have an emergency exit.

4. ***If you see fire, act quickly to put it out.***

Even if something catches fire, so long as the ceiling doesn't catch, you still have time. Don't hesitate; put out the fire.

5. ***Don't panic or run outside.***

Many people are injured when they panic and run. Stay calm and make rational decisions.

6. ***Avoid narrow alleys and concrete fences and barriers.***

Concrete fences, concrete barriers, and vending machines can easily tip over in an earthquake, so take shelter elsewhere.

7. ***Help others in emergencies.***

Work with those in your neighborhood and area to create order in emergencies.

8. ***Beware of landslides and rockslides.***

Know the natural features in your area and be prepared for secondary emergencies.

9. ***Go on foot.***

Clogging the roads with personal vehicles makes it difficult for emergency workers to do their jobs. Work for the safety of others as well as yourself.

10. ***Listen to factual information.***

In emergencies, facts are always better than fiction. Move according to information from the authorities and don't get caught up in rumors or misinformation.

~Preparing for Secondary Emergencies (Fire)~

1. **Keep flammable materials away from open flames.**

Areas near gas valves, like your kitchen, heater, and bathroom, are most likely to catch fire. Don't place things near or on these areas.

2. **Save your water.**

Saving water from your washing machine and bathtub can give you emergency water to use in fighting fires.

3. **Keep fire extinguishers in your home.**

Store fire extinguishers in safe places, and service or replace them when they get old.

4. **If an earthquake comes, be prepared to put out fires quickly.**

When an earthquake comes, first make sure your immediate vicinity is safe, then call out "Put out the fire." In Japanese, this is "hi o kese!"

《Facts about Earthquakes》

The size of an earthquake is called its magnitude, and the amount it shakes is called its seismic intensity. Let's compare it to the human voice. When someone shouts, the sound can be heard a long way off, but it becomes much quieter as it travels. Earthquakes are the same, and when a large-scale earthquake happens, the shaking can travel a long distance, but it gets smaller as it goes.

~Seismic Intensity Scale (Size of the Shaking)~

<i>Seismic Intensity</i>	<i>Criteria</i>
0	Humans can't feel any shaking, but it still registers on a seismometer
1	People in quiet areas indoors may notice.
2	Many people will notice and doors may move on their own.
3	Houses will shake, doors will rattle, and lights may shake a great deal.
4	Houses will shake a great deal, and small household objects may tip over.
5-lower	Dishes and books may fall off shelves, and furniture may move.
5-upper	Many dishes and books will fall from shelves, and TVs may tip over.
6-lower	Standing becomes dangerous. Unsecured furniture will likely tip over.
6-upper	Humans cannot stand and must move by crawling. Walls, tiles, and glass may crack or fall.
7	Most buildings will have cracked or fallen walls, tiles, or glass. Tall buildings may lean, even if earthquake-proof.