Identifying Potential Hazards

TOWN CENTER EARTHQUAKE AREA
CAUTION
Discover what **NATURAL HAZARDS** exist in your neighborhood and learn how to reduce YOUR risk!

Look up potential natural hazards for your home or the City of Los Alamitos at: [http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/](http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/)
Identify items in your HOME and at WORK which could become a hazard during an earthquake!

- Collectibles, pottery, electronics, and lamps can become deadly projectiles during an earthquake
- Unsecured cabinet doors fly open allowing objects to crash to the floor
- Pictures and mirrors can bounce off walls
- Furniture can fall over
- Unreinforced masonry can fall
You should secure things which are:

- Heavy enough to hurt you if it falls on you
- Fragile or expensive enough to be a significant loss if it falls
- Flammable or hazardous if spilled
You can reduce those hazards...

- Move furniture such as bookcases away from beds, sofas, and other places people sit or sleep
- Move heavy objects to lower shelves
- Securely anchor objects that can’t be moved
- Secure all top heavy furniture to the wall using flexible nylon earthquake straps anchored into a stud
Learn how to turn off your utilities...

• Shut off the main gas valve only if you suspect a leak because of broken pipes or the odor or sound of leaking natural gas

• If you see damage to house wiring, shut off your electrical power at the main breaker switch

• Unplug broken lights and appliances because they could start a fire when electricity is restored
If you live in a single-family home, the strength of your home depends on when it was built, its style of construction, and its location.

- Strict earthquake building codes were imposed for homes built after 1978.
- Single story homes with fewer than three steps to the front door are better suited to withstand the shaking of an earthquake.
- Split level homes or those built on a hillside are the least likely to do well during an earthquake.
- Where your house is located and the type of soil it is built on will affect how hard it will shake.

The green areas on the map will not shake as intensely as the red.
Thank you for joining us in our preparation efforts.