

Earthquake hazard hunt

You can identify potential dangers in your home by conducting an earthquake hazard hunt. Foresight and common sense are all that are needed as you go from room to room and imagine what would happen in an earthquake.

Some possible hazards

- Tall, heavy furniture that could topple, such as bookcases, china cabinets or modular wall units.
- Water heaters that could be pulled away from pipes and rupture.
- Appliances that could move enough to rupture gas or electrical lines.
- Hanging plants in heavy pots that could swing free of hooks.
- Heavy picture frames or mirrors over a bed.
- Latches on kitchen cabinets or others that will not hold the door closed during shaking.
- Breakables or heavy objects that are kept on high or open shelves.
- A masonry chimney that could crumble and fall through an unsupported roof.
- Flammable liquids like painting or cleaning products that would be safer in a garage or outside shed.

Take steps to correct these hazards and secure or relocate heavy items as appropriate.

SOURCE: FEMA