



PREVENT, GET INFORMED, GET PREPARED

What is an earthquake?

An earthquake happens when energy created by the movement of tectonic plates is suddenly released. Most earthquakes in Chile are associated with the convergence of the Nazca and South American plates; the movement between these two plates causes the build-up of large quantities of energy where the two plates meet. When enough energy has built up, the plates move, releasing part of the energy accumulated over decades or centuries. The intensity of an earthquake will depend on the distance and the movement of the ground (displacement, speed or acceleration). The Mercalli scale measures the seismic intensity of an earthquake by measuring the effects of the earthquake.

A Seismic Protection Location is a place inside an earthquake-resistant building that is protected from falling or overturning furniture or objects (lights, false ceilings, air conditioning vents, etc.). In a non-earthquake-resistant building there are no safe places and therefore the Safety Area will always be located outside the building, away from other buildings, posts and cables. Seismic Protection Locations must be clearly marked.

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PREVENT

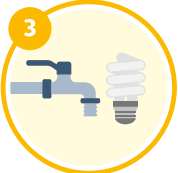
get informed, get prepared



Earthquakes



WHAT TO DO IN AN EARTHQUAKE?



GET PREPARED

Determine whether your home, school or workplace is built from earthquake-resistant materials. If it is constructed of adobe or informal materials, you must evacuate immediately during an earthquake.

Identify Seismic Protection Locations, away from windows and other elements that could fall. Anchor furniture to the floor, walls or ceiling to prevent them from overturning during an earthquake.

Locate the water valves, main gas cut-off valve and main breaker or fuse for the electricity and learn how to shut off the supply in case of emergency.

Make a Family Plan to establish meeting places and the roles of each family member. Keep an Emergency Kit. Visit www.familiapreparada.cl for more information on how to do this.

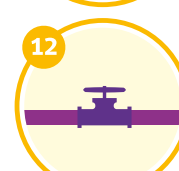
PROTECT YOURSELF DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

Stay calm and move to a Seismic Protection Location.

Protect yourself and get underneath a solid element. If this is not possible, place yourself next to such an element.

If you are in a wheelchair, try to get to a Seismic Protection Location. If this is not possible, engage the brakes and protect your head and neck with your arms.

If you are in the street, stay away from buildings, electricity posts and cables.



If you are in a crowded public place, stay calm and remain where you are. Protect your head and neck with your arms. Follow the instructions given by security staff.

If you are driving in a town or city, reduce your speed and carefully stop in a safe place. If you are driving along an urban highway, reduce your speed but do not stop. Be aware of other drivers and traffic conditions. Signal and head towards the nearest exit. On rural highways, use the shoulder and stop in a safe place.

TAKE ACTION AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

If you are in a coastal area and had difficulty standing up during the earthquake, evacuate immediately toward the Tsunami Safety Zones located on higher ground.

Turn off gas and electricity supplies. Before turning them back on, make sure there are no leaks.

If it is dark only use a flashlight. Never use candles, matches or lighters as any naked flame may cause an explosion in the event of a gas leak.

Use text messages to communicate with family and friends and stay informed by listening to a battery-operated radio or other portable device. Only follow official reports.

If you are trapped inside a building, stay calm, call for help and wait for the rescuers to arrive.

If you are trapped under debris, cover your nose and mouth and avoid shouting. Alert others to your presence by tapping on the structure with a heavy object.