

# EXPERTS PREDICT THAT A MAJOR EARTHQUAKE WILL STRIKE INDIANA IN THE FUTURE

According to earthquake experts, a major earthquake will strike Indiana in the future. The New Madrid and Wabash Valley seismic zones have produced some of the largest earthquakes ever recorded in North America and have the potential to produce similar earthquakes.

Preventing an earthquake is impossible, but there are steps that can be taken to prepare for and reduce the impact from a major earthquake.



## Secure heavy items to prevent them from falling

When a major earthquake strikes, most items that are not secured to the floor or walls will be thrown around or knocked over from the violent shaking. Make sure heavy objects, such as bookcases, dressers, and electronics equipment are secured to the wall or floor. Heavy items on these pieces of furniture should also be secured or placed as close to the floor as possible. Water heaters and other appliances should be securely fastened to a wall or floor.



## Practice or learn the “Drop, Cover, Hold On” technique

Most injuries from earthquakes come from objects falling onto people. By dropping to the floor, covering your head under a sturdy piece of furniture, and holding on until the shaking stops, you will drastically reduce the likelihood of being hurt by falling objects. Make sure the shaking has completely stopped before proceeding.



## Create a plan

Create a plan that includes what to do after the earthquake and plans for anyone with functional needs. After an earthquake, make sure the shaking is over and evacuate the building, making specific plans for anyone that may have difficulty leaving the building or moving around fallen objects. Have a meeting place set and use a roster to make sure everyone is out of the building and safe.

For more earthquake preparedness tips, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov)



## Create or update your disaster supply kit

After a major earthquake, emergency response personnel will be very busy. Having a fully stocked disaster supply kit with enough food and water for up to three days will allow responders to help those who need help the most. This kit should include any items that you would need to survive for three days.



## Identify and correct structural weaknesses in the building

Older homes may be more vulnerable to damage from an earthquake. Many contractors will offer a free inspection of your building to find any areas that might suffer extensive damage from an earthquake. You may also look into whether purchasing earthquake insurance would be a worthwhile investment.



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