

Preparing for Earthquake

Earthquakes occur suddenly. Therefore, it is important to always be prepared. Please check your surroundings and the inside of your home.

Safety Measures Inside the House

Doorway

Do not put furniture or any other objects that can easily topple over along exit routes that lead to the house entrance.

Stove

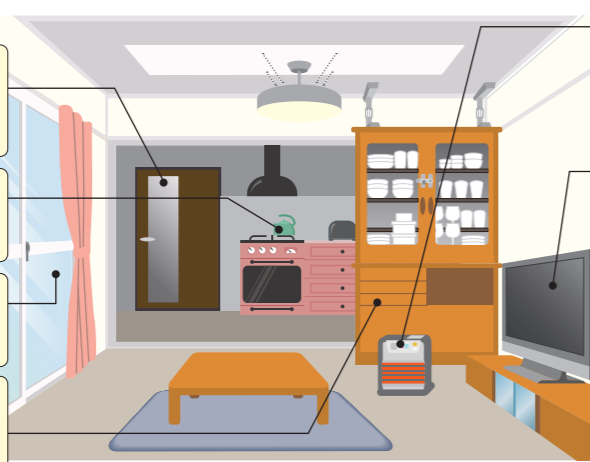
Do not put any objects that can easily fall or burn around the stove.

Glass windows

Attach protective film, which can also protect cupboard windowpanes.

Bookshelves and Cupboards

Secure tall furniture by using L-shaped metal fittings or support bars. Insert a small board under the furniture to make the furniture lean against the wall or column.



Heater

Use a heater with an automatic fire turn-off function in case of an earthquake. Do not place them around flammable items such as curtains.

TV Fall Prevention

Do not place them in high places. Fix them securely, or use seismic isolation sheets.

Bedrooms and Rooms for Children and the Elderly

Do not place tall furniture in a bedroom. It may topple over and injure those who are sleeping when an earthquake strikes.

Flashlight

It is difficult to act safely in the dark. Keep a flashlight in a convenient location for an emergency.

Safety Measures Outside the House

Balcony

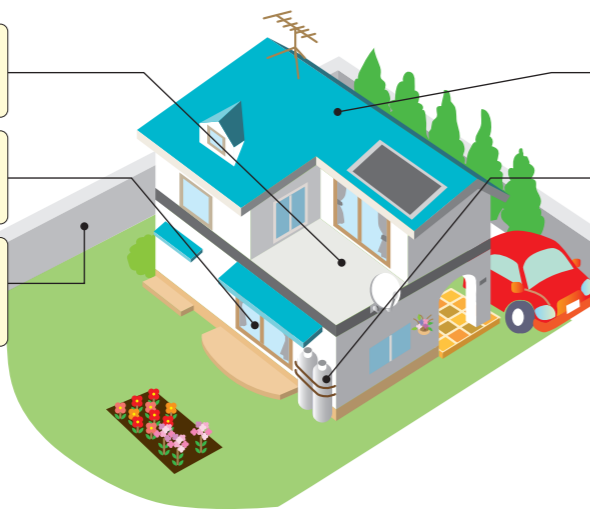
Do not put potted plants or other items where they may fall.

Glass Windows

Attach protective film. Wired glass is safer.

Concrete Walls/ Gatepost

Check for unsteady parts or cracks. Reinforce them if they're not reinforced concrete.



Roof

Secure the TV antenna tightly. Take fall-prevention measures for roof tiles.

Propane Gas

Secure gas cylinders to a wall with chains.

Sign

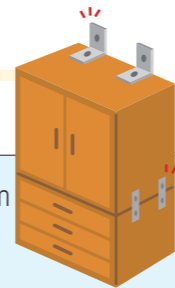
Stores should periodically check their signs to make sure they're secure and take fall-prevention measures.

Various subsidy programs

[Subsidy to Install Devices that Prevent Furniture from Overturning]

Beppu City offers subsidies to cover the cost of installing devices that will prevent furniture from overturning. This subsidy can be used for homes where elderly persons aged 70 or older live by themselves or for homes where persons with severe disabilities live. These devices will protect lives and property from earthquake damage.

For applications and inquiries: Elderly Welfare Division ☎0977-21-1442 / Disabled Welfare Division ☎0977-21-1413



[Subsidy to Promote Earthquake-Resistant Reinforced Wooden Houses]

The house itself should be earthquake-resistant to protect you and your family from earthquakes. During the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (1995), about 80% of deaths were due to crushing and suffocation caused by collapsed houses and overturned furniture. We can learn from the past and receive a seismic diagnosis of the home and make necessary modifications.

Beppu City provides a subsidy for individuals to receive a seismic diagnosis for their homes and to make modifications to their wooden two-story houses built before May 31, 1981.

For applications and inquiries: Urban Planning Division ☎0977-21-1471

Earthquake Intensity and Possible Damage

	<h3>Intensity 4</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Those who are walking feel the shake, and those who are sleeping wake up. ● Hanging objects such as lamps swing significantly. ● Objects not securely seated may fall. 		<h3>Intensity 6 Lower</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Difficult to remain standing. ● Many unsecured pieces of furniture move and may topple over. ● Wall tiles and window glasses may get damaged, and pieces may fall.
	<h3>Intensity 5 Lower</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Many people are frightened and feel the need to hold onto something stable. ● Dishes in cupboards and items on bookshelves may fall. ● Unsecured furniture may move. 		<h3>Intensity 6 Upper</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Impossible to remain standing, and some may get thrown in the air. ● Most unsecured pieces of furniture move and topple over. ● Wooden buildings with low earthquake resistance may lean or collapse.
	<h3>Intensity 5 Upper</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Difficult to walk unless holding onto something stable. ● Dishes in cupboards and items on bookshelves are more likely to fall. ● Unsecured furniture may topple over. 		<h3>Intensity 7</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More wooden buildings with low earthquake resistance are even more likely to lean or collapse. ● Even earthquake-resistant wooden buildings may lean at times. ● Many of the reinforced concrete buildings with low earthquake resistance collapse.

Source: Japan Meteorological Agency Website
Based on Tables explaining the JMA Seismic Intensity Scale (Seismic intensity 0 to 3 are omitted)

What to do when an earthquake occurs

An earthquake happens

1 minute
2 minutes

3 minutes

5 minutes

Few hours

3 days

Ensure your safety first.

- Ensure your safety first by taking cover under a table.
- Turn off the fire immediately. (Do not take risks when the shaking is severe.)
- Secure escape routes by opening doors and windows.



Protect your family and property. But don't take risks.

- When the shaking stops, check any source of fire and conduct initial firefighting activities.
- Confirm the safety of your family.
- Wear slippers or shoes even indoors (to protect your feet from shards of glass and fallen objects).
- Evacuate immediately if there is a risk of the building collapsing, tsunamis, or sediment disasters.



Prepare to evacuate. Beware of aftershocks!

- Prepare emergency items to take.
- Beware of fire or collapsing buildings caused by aftershocks.
- Obtain disaster information from the radio, etc.
- Turn off the electric circuit breaker and main gas valve.



Cooperate with neighbors. Confirm the safety of Persons Requiring Evacuation Assistance!

- Check on neighbors and evacuate together.
- Confirm the safety of Persons Requiring Evacuation Assistance in the community.
- Cooperate with neighbors to extinguish fires and participate in the rescue effort.
- Don't get close to dangerous buildings that may collapse.



Help each other in evacuation shelters!

- Don't enter your home if it has collapsed.
- Exercise continuous caution for large aftershocks.
- Use essential items from your emergency stockpile to survive.
- Observe rules for living as a group in an evacuation shelter and care for persons needing special consideration (those who are elderly and disabled, infants, and others needing special care).

