

# Tips

# on Reducing Earthquake Damage

Are you safe at home when earthquakes occur?  
Keep your house safe by taking earthquake-resistant measures for your house such as securing furniture.



## • Earthquake-resistance Inspections of Homes

In 1981, criteria for the strength of new constructions or buildings have changed greatly. One indicator to know the strength of your home is whether it was built after 1981.

### ○ Houses built **before 1981**



should undergo an earthquake-resistance inspection by a specialist and then reinforce your house accordingly.



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have already passed current earthquake-resistant criteria. However, that does not mean they will never collapse. Houses will age as time goes by. Inspection and maintenance should be done periodically.



## • Furniture Placement and Securing

Many people were caught under fallen furniture and suffered serious injuries or loss of lives in the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake. During strong earthquakes, furniture is likely to fall over and therefore, you should reconsider the placement and securing of the furniture.

- Consider the direction it may fall when placing .
  - Make a room only for large and furniture. (Do not use this room as a bedroom or living room.)
  - Use built-in furniture.
  - Try not to place furniture in bedrooms which will fall on to the bed.
  - When placing furniture, secure it to prevent it from falling.
- ※ If you do not want to damage the wall of a house you are renting, find a way that avoids drilling holes to the wall such as using furniture anchors, adhesive strips, or tension rods.  
Using more than two of these methods adds more safety and security.



## • Preparations for Emergency Supplies

When natural disasters occur, you may need to evacuate to a safe place immediately. Put survival supplies in your bug-out bag and keep it ready for use in case of emergency. Please make use of the "Family Checklist" posted on the Saitama Prefectural Police website.