

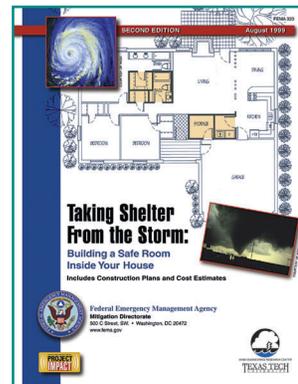
Information Sources

Additional information about tornado shelters is available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

FEMA Publications

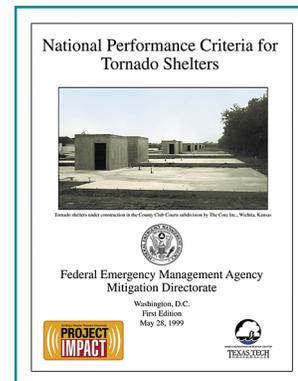
Taking Shelter From the Storm – Building a Safe Room in Your House
FEMA Publication 320, August 1999

This illustrated, full-color booklet is intended for homeowners and contractors. It explains the hazards posed by severe winds associated with tornadoes and hurricanes, includes maps and charts for assessing tornado risk, presents shelter design criteria, and includes estimated costs and detailed construction drawings for several types of in-residence shelters.



FEMA 320

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National Performance Criteria for Tornado Shelters
August 1999

The performance criteria presented in this booklet are intended for design professionals, shelter manufacturers, building officials, and emergency management officials. The issues addressed include resistance of shelter walls, ceilings, and doors to wind loads and missile impacts; shelter size, ventilation, lighting, and accessibility; and multihazard (e.g., flooding and earthquake) effects. The criteria form the basis for the construction of tornado shelters that will provide a consistently high level of protection.

Building Performance Assessment Team Report, Midwest Tornadoes of May 3, 1999

FEMA Publication 342, October 1999

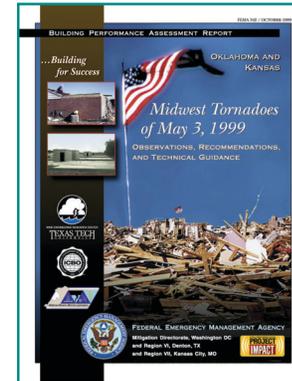
This illustrated, full-color report presents the observations and conclusions of the Building Performance Assessment Team (BPAT) deployed by FEMA after the May 3, 1999, tornadoes in Oklahoma and Kansas. The report describes the tornado damage; assesses the performance of residential and nonresidential structures, including tornado shelters; and presents recommendations for property protection, building code enforcement, and residential and group sheltering.

Design and Construction Guidance for Community Shelters

FEMA Publication 361, July 2000

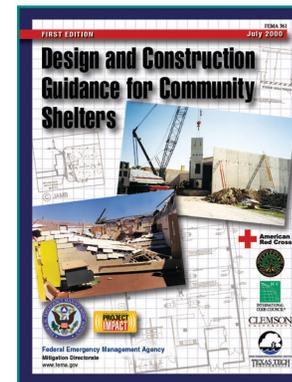
This illustrated manual is intended for engineers, architects, building officials, and prospective shelter owners. It explains tornado and hurricane hazards, presents shelter design criteria based on performance requirements and human factors, and outlines emergency management considerations for community shelters. Also provided are site assessment checklists that can be used in the selection of shelter areas in existing buildings; case studies that include wind load analyses, costs, and construction drawings; and the results of laboratory tests of shelter construction materials.

For more information about FEMA publications, wind hazards, and wind shelters, visit the FEMA website at www.fema.gov.



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