

Remembering the 2010 Chilean Earthquake with Preparedness

On February 27, 2010 one of the largest and most violent earthquakes in history struck Chile causing widespread calamitous damage. Three years later, this event serves as a reminder at home to prepare for earthquakes. 45 states and territories in the United States are at moderate to high risk for earthquakes. Preparing now could make all the difference between catastrophic and minor damages. Here are some steps you can take before an earthquake strikes to minimize loss of life and property:

- Fasten heavy items such as shelves, pictures and mirrors securely to walls and away from beds, couches and anywhere people sit;
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves. Store breakable items such as glass and china in low, closed cabinets with latches;
- Secure your water heater, refrigerator, furnace and gas appliances by strapping them to the wall studs and bolting to the floor;
- Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations; and
- Locate safe spots in each room under a sturdy table or against an inside wall.

View [this earthquake preparedness webinar](#) for more tips or visit www.ready.gov/earthquakes.