



Help Reduce Hazards

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

Making your home safer is a key part of any family disaster plan. During a disaster, objects in your home can cause injury or damage. Anything that can move, fall, break or cause a fire is a home hazard.

Consider these points as you walk around your home and reduce the hazards:

Secure items that can shift or fall.

- Look in every room to see what could tip over or fall during an earthquake or if a child climbs on it.
- Attach tall furniture like bookcases and cabinets to wall studs.
- Secure televisions, computers and other heavy items to shelves or walls.
- Hang heavy objects, such as large pictures or mirrors, away from beds and chairs.
- Make sure that the water heater is strapped to studs.
- Install secure latches or locking devices on all cabinet doors.

Check for fire hazards.

- Keep lighters, matches and candles out of the reach of children.
- Keep space heaters and candles away from curtains and furniture.
- Never leave a lighted candle unattended or with children.
- Make sure that flammable items are away from heat sources—fireplaces, stovetops or lamps.
- Store hazardous and flammable materials on low shelves in locked cupboards, away from heat sources and children.





Help Reduce Hazards

Page 2 of 2

General safety:

- Keep hallways and stairs clear of obstacles to prevent tripping and to ensure easy evacuation.
- Keep electric cords and other obstacles away from evacuation paths.
- Make sure that there are two clear and safe exits from every room in your home.
- Place and maintain smoke alarms on each level of your home, inside and outside each bedroom and right outside the kitchen.
- Identify and secure any areas in your home that should be off-limits to children.
- Identify any areas outside your home that should be off-limits to children because of the danger of flood, flash flood or other hazards.

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.

