

# Earthquakes



## Definition

An earthquake is a sudden rapid shaking of the ground caused by the shifting of rocks beneath the earth's surface. They may also be caused by volcanic eruptions, meteor impacts and underground explosions or collapses. Their effects vary from mild to catastrophic.

Earthquakes are among the deadliest of the natural hazards, their impacts include death, injuries, property damage and loss of shelter and livelihood.

There is no early warning system for earthquakes; they occur suddenly and at any time of the year. Aftershocks which are smaller earthquakes follow the main one, these can occur up to a month, although small in magnitude than the main earthquake, they can still cause damage.

**The more you KNOW.... The better PREPARED you will be.**

## Know What to Do

In the event of an earthquake and you are inside a building. Do the D.C.H. and do not move until the shaking has stopped.

D - Drop

C - Cover

H - Hold on



*There are other safety procedures which can be done during an earthquake. However, the Drop Cover and Hold on is the method which has been agreed by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Agency (CDEMA) and University of the West Indies Seismic Research Centre (UWISRC) for the Caribbean Region.*

For more information on earthquakes call the Department of Emergency Management at 246-438-7575

OR

For additional reading visit the following websites:

[www.weready.org](http://www.weready.org)

[www.uwiseismic.com](http://www.uwiseismic.com)

[www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov)

[www.fema.gov/earthquake-hazard-maps](http://www.fema.gov/earthquake-hazard-maps)

[www.improvet.net.com/a/home-emergency-disaster-safety](http://www.improvet.net.com/a/home-emergency-disaster-safety)

[www.earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/kids/](http://www.earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/kids/)

<http://yourlocalsecurity.com/includes/yourlocalsecurity.com/PDFs2013/Earthquake-Safety-Tips.pdf>

<http://dropcoverholdon.org/>

<http://www.homeadvisor.com/r/earthquake-recovery-resource-guide/#.V8Xmz6ZdGUk>

[http://www.brainline.org/content/2009/06/disaster-readiness-tips-for-people-with-mobility-disabilities\\_pageall.html](http://www.brainline.org/content/2009/06/disaster-readiness-tips-for-people-with-mobility-disabilities_pageall.html)

<https://www.rover.com/blog/more-dog-disaster-preparedness/>

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster-safety-library>