

# GETTING YOUR HOME QUAKE READY.

get  
**quake  
ready**

[www.quakeready.org.nz](http://www.quakeready.org.nz)



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
New Zealand

# WHO

IS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY?

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NZ

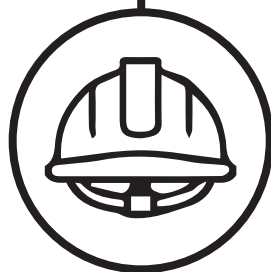
Is a not-for-profit organisation that works in partnership with people of goodwill and families in housing need, to eliminate sub-standard housing. We believe everybody deserves a decent place to live. Since we began in 1992 over 500 homes have been built and thousands repaired for families in New Zealand.

## REBUILDING COMMUNITIES

After natural disasters and conflicts, Habitat for Humanity is there to help rebuild communities and prepare for the future. We recognise the need to provide shelter and housing solutions to help families and communities recover.

## HABITAT RESTORES

Our nationwide chain of ReStores are second hand stores that accept and resell new and gently used items. All sales generate funds to support Habitat's building programmes.



# WHY

## QUAKE READY KITS?

### HELPING YOU GET QUAKE READY

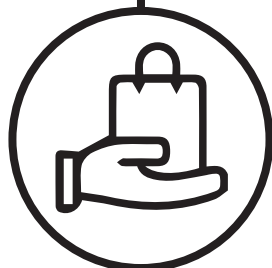
When disaster strikes, a family's first concern is safety. Damaging earthquakes like the 7.8 magnitude quake which struck near Culverden in November 2016 can leave behind a trail of destruction.

Movement of household items can be the biggest threat to a family's safety. Fortunately, there are things you can do to help prevent damage and injury from earthquakes.

### QUAKE READY KITS

Habitat for Humanity is distributing Quake Ready kits for future earthquakes and aftershocks, so that families can be prepared.

Our aim is to help you minimise the risk of damage to your homes and protect your family. Each kit provides the tools and items you need to secure furniture and belongings.



# WHAT IS IN THE KIT

## SIMPLE TOOLS TO IMPROVE HOME SAFETY

Habitat for Humanity Quake Ready kits are based on the guidelines for preventing earthquake damage in the home as recommended by EQC. It covers the majority of the recommended do-it-yourself solutions.

We hope with these simple tools and items that you can prepare your home and family to be 'Quake Ready'.



# HOW

## TO BE PREPARED

## QUAKE READY INSTRUCTIONS

On the following pages, you will find out how to use the items to secure many household items that could be the most dangerous in an earthquake or aftershock.

For more detailed information visit: <http://www.eqc.govt.nz/fixfasten>.

## TALL FURNITURE

### BRACKETS, SCREWS, STUD FINDER, SCREWDRIVER, MOUNTING TAPE

Taller furniture is more likely to rock and topple, particularly if it is top-heavy. Falling furniture can be dangerous.

#### BRACKETS

Wall units, bookcases and other tall furniture should be secured to wall studs. The easiest way is to use metal brackets. To hide the brackets, attach them as two upside-down "Ls".

1. Mark on the wall where the top of the furniture comes to and then move it away.
2. Find where the studs are in the wall using a stud finder. If the wall is concrete then use the strong mounting tape on the side that will attach to the wall.
3. Use 10 gauge screws about 40mm long to screw the brackets in to the wall.
4. Move the furniture back.

5. Screw the other arm of the brackets down on to the furniture with 8-gauge screws of 15- 25mm length.

#### HEAVY FRAGILE ITEMS

Store heavy and/or fragile objects on lower shelves or in low closed cabinets. Use non-slip mat for extra security to prevent breakages.



## ORNAMENTS & SMALL OBJECTS

### BLU TACK, NON-SLIP MATS, DOUBLE-SIDED TAPE

Even small shakes can damage or break ornaments and other objects. They can become flying weapons in bigger jolts, and leave a mess of dangerous glass and broken crockery.

#### BLU TACK

Blu Tack is good to hold down ornaments, glassware and similar small objects.

1. Ensure the bottom of the object and the table or shelf are clean.
2. Roll pieces of Blu Tack in to balls.
3. Push on to bottom of object.
4. Press the item down firmly, and gently twist a few times to get it to grip.
5. To remove the object, hold at the base and top and twist while gently pulling.



#### NON-SLIP MATS

Non-slip mats are good for preventing squat but heavy objects, or objects with a low centre of gravity, from sliding.

1. Cut a piece of mat to fit under the object.
2. The mat can sometimes be slightly smaller than the object, allowing it to be hidden.

## BOOKSHELVES & CUPBOARDS

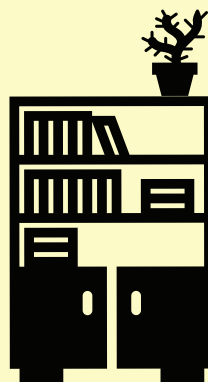
### SAFETY LATCHES, STRINGS

#### CABINET LATCHES

Use cabinet latches on cupboard doors and drawers especially if the contents are fragile and breakable. Magnetic latches will not hold during a quake. Child-proof latches with a mechanical action are best.

#### BOOKSHELF WIRES

Cord, nylon or curtain wire can be strung in front of books etc. on a shelf to lessen the chances of them falling or flying off in a quake.



## APPLIANCES

### NON-SLIP MATS, BRACKETS



Appliances like microwaves, TVs and computers can slide off benches and topple from cabinets, becoming hazards both during and after an earthquake.

#### SMALL APPLIANCES

Non-slip mats are good under appliances like microwaves and DVD players, where most of the weight is low down. Rubber “cups” that sit under the feet of an appliance or self-adhesive Velcro pads can also be effective. Appliances like microwaves can be fastened with metal restraint straps available from specialist safety or hardware stores.

#### TELEVISIONS

Tall and narrow TVs, and can topple forward. If the TV is on a base or stand, this can be fastened using strap restraints available from specialist safety or hardware stores. Using a non-slip rubber mat or rubber feet can also stop movement, but these should be used in conjunction with strap restraints.

## PICTURES & MIRRORS

### HOOKS, NAILS, HAMMER, SAFETY GLASSES



Anything hanging on a standard picture hook or nail could come off, even in a moderate earthquake. The glass on pictures and mirrors can shatter, creating a hazard.

#### CLOSE HOOKS

Push hooks closed after hanging pictures or mirrors. Single-nail conventional picture hooks are fine for light pictures if the nail has been hammered in to a wall stud. Heavier pictures will need a two or three-nail picture hook, or several hooks.

Very heavy pictures or mirrors may need something even stronger.

1. Use strong cord, not light string.
2. Nail the hook into place.
3. Hang the picture and then pull it out, so you can get your hand behind it and push the hook closed.



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