**What you should do during an earthquake**

(Earthquake Emergency Contact ☎ 119)

- The rolling and shaking will last only for 1-2 minutes. While it is happening, crawl under a sturdy table or a desk to protect yourself. If there is no table or desk nearby, protect your head using a cushion or something similar.

- Open up the door to secure an exit route, and turn off the gas and electricity.

- If a fire occurs, stay calm and extinguish the fire as quickly as possible. You will have three chances to extinguish the fire: before major shaking, right after the major shaking, and when the fire is still small.

- Do not run outside, as you might be injured by falling objects such as glass from windows or signs.

- During an earthquake or a fire, do not use an elevator. If you are already in an elevator, press the nearest floor button and the Open button so that you can get off as quickly as possible, and move to a safe place. If you are locked in an elevator, ask for help using the interphone.

- When the shaking stops, leave the building and go to an open space such as a park. Do not go near objects that are not firmly anchored such as brick walls or vending machines, as they might fall down.

**10 Safety Tips after an Earthquake**

1. If you are inside your house:

① The safety of you and your family must be your first priority.

-The shaking will only last for 1-2 minutes. First, crawl under a sturdy table or a desk and hold on to the legs to protect your body. If there is no table or desk nearby, protect your head using a cushion or something similar.

\*Be careful not to get injured by falling objects or furniture.

② If there is a fire, please stay calm and extinguish the fire as quickly as possible.

-During a significant earthquake, it may be difficult for the fire truck to arrive in time. For this reason, it is very important for people to work together to minimize the damage from the earthquake.

- Even during a small earthquake, please remember to put out all fires.

It is extremely important that you, your family and your neighbors all work together to extinguish small fires before they become large ones.

< During an earthquake, you will have three chances to extinguish a fire.>

- First chance:

Before the major shaking, when the tremors are still small. As soon as you sense a small tremor, tell everyone to put out all flames on stoves or heaters by yelling out, “Earthquake! Put out all fires!”

- Second chance:

When the major shaking has stopped. It is very dangerous to try to put out a fire while major shaking is happening, and the pots are falling down from the stove. When the major shaking stops, remind everyone to put out all fires by yelling out “Put out all fires!” once again.

- Third chance:

Right after a fire breaks out. Even when there is a fire, you certainly can extinguish the fire within 1-2 minutes. Keep a fire extinguisher or a large bucket of water around at all times.

③ Open up the door immediately to secure your exit route!

-In ferroconcrete buildings such as apartment buildings, there have been cases in which some victims could not get out because their doors became distorted during the earthquake.

- Leave the door open to secure an exit route.

-Prepare yourself with an exit plan to avoid being locked in.

**2. If you are outside when you feel the earthquake:**

- When the ground is shaking and you cannot stand properly, you will want to lean on something. The first thing that you will hold on to is a pillar or a wall. However, while these objects might look sturdy, in fact they can be very dangerous. There have been many earthquake victims in the past who died because pillars and walls collapsed.

- Do not go near block walls or pillars.

- In urban surroundings, the most dangerous things are falling objects such as glass from windows and signs.

- It is extremely important that you cover your head with whatever you have handy, like a backpack or a purse.

- Do not go near objects that are not firmly anchored such as vending machines, as they might fall down. In urban areas, where it is easy to find high-rise buildings, it could be safer to go inside a building.

**3. If you are inside a department store, a theatre, or an underground mall when you feel the earthquake:**

- If you are in a place with a large number of people such as a department store or an underground mall, the most dangerous people are the ones who panic. In places like these, please listen to the staff and follow their instructions.

- Underground malls are relatively safe during earthquakes. In the event of a blackout, do not panic and stay calm, as the emergency lighting will turn on soon.

- In the event of a fire, the space will soon be filled with smoke.

- Move to a safer place while keeping yourself as low to the floor as possible to avoid inhaling the smoke.

- Do not go near pillars or the like.

**4. If you are inside an elevator when you feel the earthquake:**

- If you feel the earthquake while you are inside an elevator, press the button to get off after confirming that it is safe outside.

- In high-rise buildings and other modern buildings, the elevators are equipped with controlled operation devices, and will automatically stop on the nearest floor in the event of an earthquake.

- If you are locked in, contact the management office using the interphone to ask for help.

- During an earthquake or a fire, do not use an elevator.

**5. If you are inside a subway when you feel the earthquake:**

- You are about to feel an immense shock. Hold on to the metal bars and handles to prevent yourself from falling. Then, stay calm and follow the conductor’s instructions. To avoid confusing others, do not act on your own.

- The subway will stop temporarily when there is an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.0 or higher. To prevent injuries, do not leave the car in haste.

- In a blackout, all subway stations are designed to turn on their emergency lighting. Running to the exit is extremely dangerous and can lead to chaos. Stay calm and follow the announcements and instructions.

**6. If you are inside a moving vehicle when you feel the earthquake:**

- During an earthquake, the tires will move as if they were punctured; this means that you will not be able to control the direction, or drive properly. Carefully pull over to the right side of the road while avoiding crossroads.

- Ensure the center of the road is clear, so that people and emergency vehicles can pass.

- All roads will be closed in urban areas. Listen to the radio, and if you see a police officer, follow his or her instructions. If you need to go to a safer place, close all the windows to block fire, leave the keys in the lock and the doors unlocked. Then, go with the people around you as a group.

**7. If you are at a mountain or the shore when you feel the earthquake:**

- If you are near a mountain or steep slope, go to a safer place immediately to avoid the risk of a landslide.

- If you are at the shore, you are at risk of being exposed to a tsunami. When you feel an earthquake, or hear a tsunami alert, turn on a radio or television to listen to local broadcasts, and go to a safer place as quickly as possible.

**8. If you are with an injured person:**

- Many different kinds of injuries can occur during a major earthquake. As well, paramedics and medical institutions might not be able to provide service quickly due to blackouts, traffic jams, and other factors.

- When a person is injured during a disaster, the people around must give first aid. For this reason, it is a good idea to prepare yourself by learning about first aid treatments.

**9. Evacuation is the last measure:**

- If there is a large fire during an earthquake that is life-threatening, evacuate immediately. When evacuating, gather around the civilian groups for disaster prevention, follow the instructions of officers, and carry only minimal belongings. Do not ride a vehicle or bicycle.

- It is absolutely necessary to cooperate with your neighbors to assist patients and the disabled. Establish an evacuation plan with your neighbors in advance.

**10. Get accurate information so that you know what to do:**

- People become emotionally unstable during a major earthquake. In order to avoid confusion, it is important that everyone stays calm and gets correct information.

- Try to get correct information by carrying a portable radio.

- Trust the information given by the local government, police and fire department. Do not trust groundless rumors.

<Source: National Guideline for Disasters, Ministry of Public Safety and Security>