

## Natural Disasters Can Strike Tomorrow. What Should I Do Before, During and After Them?

-- From New Keep-It-for-Future-Reference Edition of "Bosai Map"  
(Minoh Disaster Prevention Map) of May 2016 --



### ●When a Big Earthquake Strikes:

#### What to Do During an Earthquake

If you are using the gas, turn it off immediately. Get under a sturdy table or desk, and hold on to it.

#### What to Do After an Earthquake

(1) Wear shoes even inside the house: Your room may be scattered with dangerous debris, especially broken glass and ceramics. Put on your shoes first. Check the exit and leave it open to secure an escape route. Shut off the main gas valves. Shut off the electricity at the circuit box.

(2) Hang a big yellow cloth in front of your house: Once the shaking stops, check for injuries among your family. If they are all right, hang a yellow shirt, towel, or handkerchief in front of your house. This is a sign to let others know that "we are all right".

(3) Check the safety of the neighbors: Check for injuries among your neighbors (both sides of your home and several houses in front of your home) and hazards in your neighborhood. In the event of injury, building collapse or fires, call 119 for emergency medical assistance or reporting fires, then try to administer first aid, organize rescue measures if people are trapped and extinguish small fires in cooperation with your neighbors.

(4) Stay at home as long as it is safe: But if it is structurally damaged or threatened by a fire, please evacuate your home for the nearest Evacuation Site (namely, elementary school). As for residents in the Kita and Kayano Elementary School Districts, evacuate to the Maple Hall and Dai-ni Junior High School, respectively.

#### What to Do Before an Earthquake

After an earthquake, electrical, gas, water and transportation systems can be disrupted for 3 days.

(1) Always store drinking water (3 liters a day for each person), and cooking-free packaged/canned/bottled foods for 3 days.

(2) Have "disaster supplies kits" readily available in accessible locations at home. Your disaster supplies kit should include small amounts of bottled water, snack foods, a battery-powered radio, a flashlight, extra batteries, a whistle, toiletries, diapers, food for infants, passport, etc. and, as needed, medications, "Okusuri-techo (prescription list)", spare eyeglasses or contact lenses and cleaning solution, and personal hygiene supplies. Backpacks are best for your disaster supplies kits so you can take them with you if you evacuate.

(3) Move tall furniture away from where you sleep, sit, or spend a lot of time.

(4) Anchor heavy furniture with metal fasteners or specific straps to the walls or floor, and install door latches on cabinets.

(5) You can assess your home's earthquake-resistance with professionals for free. Please contact one of the contractors designated by Minoh City.



### ●When Heavy Rain/Typhoon Comes:

There are many mountains in the northern part of Minoh City. Heavy rain and typhoons can cause disasters, for instance "Doseki-ryu (flood of mud and sand from mountains)", "Gake-kuzure (landslide, fall down the side of the mountain suddenly)", "Ji-suberi (landslip, the land of mountain moving)". The danger zones (hazard areas) of each disaster are written in the new "Disaster Prevention Map". The colors, red, yellow and gray, indicate the grade of danger.

Please check (1) if your house is in the hazard area, and (2) make sure you can locate the evacuation center and you know how to reach it.

### ●In the Event of Disaster, Please Listen to Emergency Information from Minoh City

In the event of a disaster such as heavy rain, typhoon or earthquake, Minoh City will provide citizens with emergency information including evacuation plans, through FM radio "Tackey 816 (816MHz)", email, Twitter, etc. To listen to Tackey 816, please tune 816MHz. To receive email, please register your email address at <http://anzen.minoh.net/> or QR code on this page. The Twitter account is @Minoh\_Anzen.

Emergency information includes 3 phases of evacuation plans, "evacuation preparation information (Hinan-junbi: please prepare to evacuate)", "evacuation advisory (Hinan-kankoku: please evacuate to the elementary school, etc.)" and "evacuation order (Hinan-shiji: you must evacuate immediately)". All of them are in Japanese only, however, it is advisable to be attentive to and acquainted with things such as the evacuation route and these 3 Japanese words.



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