

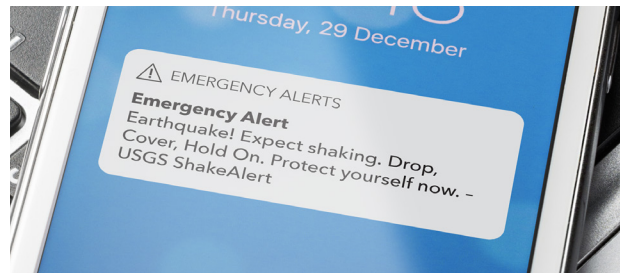
Frequently Asked Questions

• What is ShakeAlert®?

ShakeAlert is an Earthquake Early Warning system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and its partners that detects significant earthquakes quickly, so alerts can tell people to take protective action when weak or greater shaking is expected at their location. ShakeAlert also delivers alerts that trigger automated actions, such as slowing a train and opening fire station doors.

• How do you get alerts?

You may get alerts by several means, such as by internet, radio, television, cell phones, and other mobile devices. If weak or greater shaking is expected at your location, you may get a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) on your cell phone, just like a severe weather or AMBER alert, or you may get an alert as a public announcement. You can also download apps; check with your state or local emergency management agency for the apps that cover your area. It is important to get alerts by as many means as possible.

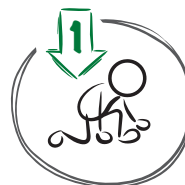


• How should you protect yourself when you get an alert?

- When you get an alert, immediately **DROP-COVER-HOLD ON**. **Do not wait to feel shaking!**
- **DROP** where you are onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter, if it is nearby.
- **COVER** your head and neck with both arms and hands. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows, hanging objects, and tall furniture).
- **HOLD ON** to your shelter until shaking stops. Be prepared to move with your shelter if it shifts.



If you **FEEL SHAKING** or **GET AN ALERT...**



DROP!



COVER!



HOLD ON!

• What if you can't take cover under a desk or table when you get an alert?

You may have to adapt to your situation and environment. Here are a few examples.

- **If you are in a recliner or chair**, bend over to protect vital organs and **COVER** your head and neck with a book, pillow, or your hands and arms.
- **If you are in a bed**, stay there. If possible, lie face down and **COVER** your head and neck with a pillow. **HOLD ON** to your head and neck with both hands until shaking stops. You are less likely to be injured by objects if you stay where you are.



If you FEEL SHAKING or GET AN ALERT...

When possible:	 DROP!	 COVER!	 HOLD ON!
Using a cane?	 DROP!	 COVER!	 HOLD ON!
Using a walker?	 LOCK!	 COVER!	 HOLD ON!
Using a wheelchair?	 LOCK!	 COVER!	 HOLD ON!

• When can you expect to get an alert?

- You may get an alert before, during, or after shaking begins at your location, depending on your distance from the quake. Typically, people at farther distances from an earthquake epicenter will have more time to self-protect and may experience less intense shaking. For every earthquake, there is a region near the epicenter where alerts will not arrive before shaking begins.
- If you feel shaking and did not get an alert, immediately **take protective action!** In rare cases, you could get an alert when there was no earthquake. Accuracy is expected to increase as ShakeAlert system technology improves.

For more information about ShakeAlert and additional ways to stay safe during an earthquake, visit [ShakeAlert.org](https://www.shakealert.org) and follow USGS on Twitter @USGS_ShakeAlert.



Contact Valcom at earthquake@valcom.com

