

# NONSTRUCTURAL HAZARD MITIGATION CHECKLIST



1. An area of plate glass windows near a work area or within a classroom may be a hazard during an earthquake. This hazard may be minimized through the use of tempered glass or a covering over the glass.
2. Freestanding bookcases, storage cabinets, or file cabinets should be secured to the stud in the wall, preventing tip over in the event of an earthquake.
3. Light diffusers, if not properly attached to their fixtures, may fall during an earthquake. Broken diffusers should be replaced.
4. High, unsecured storage of heavy items may cause injuries in an earthquake. Items should be secured or moved to a lower storage area.
5. Hanging plants or plants stored over work areas may fall in an earthquake.
6. Trailers supported only by small steel stands may fall over or have the stands puncture the floor during a quake. The trailers should be supported on stable stands and should be tied into the ground with steel rods and straps.
7. Glass trophy cases may fall or the glass may shatter during a quake. Recommend that cabinets are secured to walls and all trophies are secured in cabinet.
8. Water heater should be secured to the stud in the wall, preventing it from falling over and creating water damage and a possible fire hazard.
9. Makeshift shelving (cinder blocks, etc.) should be replaced with permanently secured shelving.
10. Loose, unsecured ceiling tiles may fall and cause injuries.
11. Non tempered plate glass over doors may fall in large shards during an earthquake causing severe injury.
12. Shelving unsecured to walls may fall during an earthquake.
13. Unsecured glass aquariums and animal containers could fall and break open. They should be firmly mounted and the glass should be replaced with plastic if possible.
14. Chemicals stored on open shelves may fall and intermingle during an earthquake. Acids, bases, and solvents should be stored separately and should be secured with elastic shock cord across the front of each shelf.
15. Poor housekeeping practices could result in an accident or prevent exiting during an earthquake.
16. File cabinets that allow more than one drawer to open at a time could fall over during an earthquake. They should be replaced with files that have a self-locking feature, which would allow only one drawer to open at a time.

**Irvine Police Department  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTION  
P.O. Box 19575  
Irvine, CA 92623-9575  
(949) 724-7148**