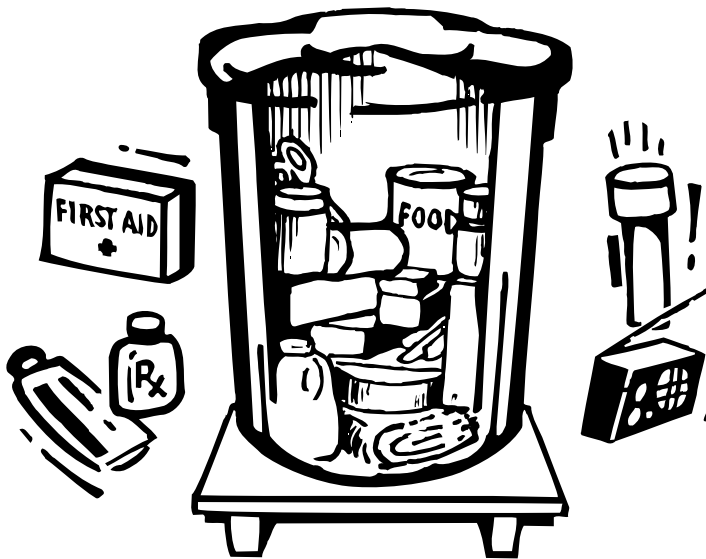




FAMILY STEPS TO SURVIVAL

Supply Storage



WHY?

Supplies won't help if you can't get to them!

Flashlights, portable radios, first aid kits and other emergency supplies are essential after earthquakes and other disasters, but only if you can get to and use them. Emergency supplies aren't very useful if you're unable to get to them when you need them. Store your emergency supplies in a location that you can access.

Consider the options presented on the back side of this Focus Sheet. Remember, supplies won't help you if you can't get to them.

These are only suggestions for preparing your family. Use discretion and common sense in your preparations.

STEP 2

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Storage

There are several options for storing your emergency supplies, including:

- Backpacks
- Duffel bags
- Heavy plastic trash cans with wheels
- Other containers

One of the most important considerations in storing your supplies is determining a location that you'll have access to after a major earthquake or other disaster. At least two different locations are recommended.

Identify the safe spots in your house as you did when you developed your family emergency plan and conducted your home hazard hunt. Then, determine the locations in which you spend the most time and to which you'll have easy access.

Your options may include storing the supplies in the following locations:

- Under your bed
- In a hallway closet
- In the den
- In another location
- In more than one location such as in a backpack to take with you if you have to leave your home and in the pantry for use while you're at home.

You also might consider storing some of the supplies in different locations. **For example:**

<u>Supply</u>	<u>Location</u>
Flashlight	under/by your bed
Sturdy shoes	under/by your bed
Portable radio	under/by your bed
Eye glasses	under/by your bed
Canes, walkers, etc.	by your bed
Adjustable wrench	at the gas meter
Food, water	in the pantry

Remember, however, that food and water require special considerations:

- Empty open packages of sugar, flour, dried fruits and nuts into screw-top plastic jars or air-tight containers to avoid problems with insects and rodents.
- Place food and water stored in the pantry on lower shelves to prevent damage to the container.
- Store your food and water in a dark, cool place to increase their life span.
- Do not place plastic containers directly on cement floors. Lead and other contaminants may leak into the food or water if the container is placed on cement.

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