

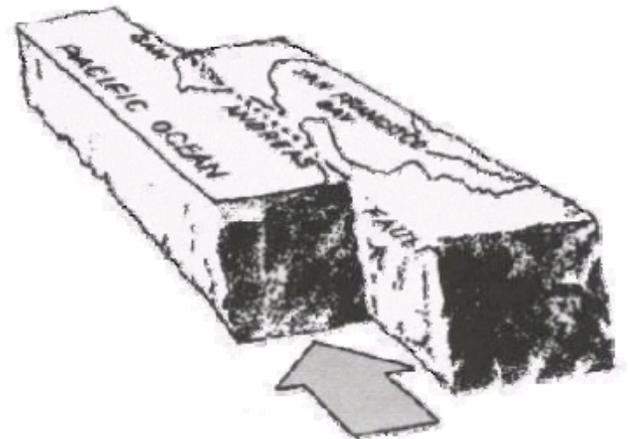
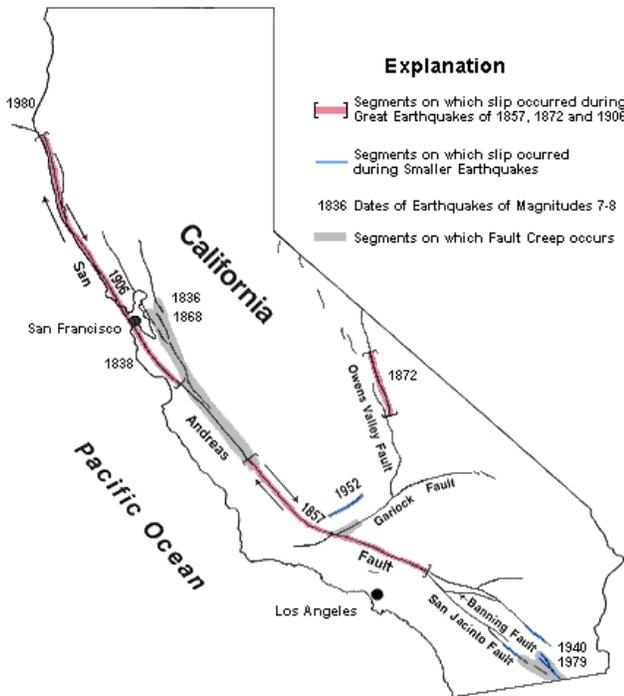


# Are You Ready To Ride It Out If An Earthquake Hit Today?

[www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org)

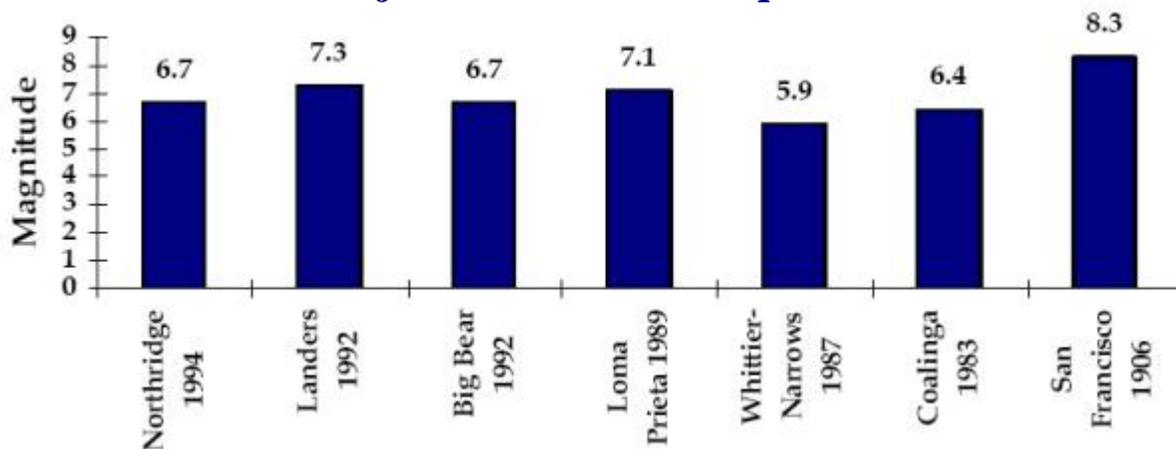
## What Causes Earthquakes?

The earth's crust is broken into "plates." Earthquakes occur when these moving plates grind and scrape against each other. In California, the Pacific Plate and the North American Plate meet along the San Andreas Fault, which is more than 650 miles long and extends 10 miles deep. Additionally, there are several faults that branch from the San Andreas Fault including the Hayward and San Jacinto faults. Unlike other natural disasters, there are no warnings for earthquakes. One could hit today, tomorrow, or next week. Future earthquakes are a serious threat to Californians who could potentially face loss of life, injury, and property damage. Take the time **NOW** to prepare before the next quake strikes.



The diagram shows the movement Along the San Andreas Fault

## Major California Earthquakes





## Are You Prepared To Ride It Out?

We have heard it so many times –the “big one” is coming. In our lifetime, we still haven’t seen or felt that huge earthquake. That shouldn’t stop us from preparing.

### Before an Earthquake:

- ✓ Prepare an emergency supply kit.
- ✓ Know the safe spots in each room.
- ✓ Conduct practice drills.
- ✓ Choose an out-of-state friend/relative to call after the quake.

### During an Earthquake:

- ✓ If indoors, stay there. Drop, cover, and hold on.
- ✓ If outdoors, get into an open area away from trees, buildings, walls, and power lines.
- ✓ If driving, pull over to the side of the road and stop. Avoid overpasses, underpasses, and power lines. Stay inside your car until the shaking stops.

### After an Earthquake:

- ✓ Unless there is an immediate, life-threatening emergency, do not attempt to use the telephone.
- ✓ Check for gas and water leaks, broken electrical wiring or sewage lines. If there is damage, turn the utility off at the source and report to your utility company. **Only shut off the gas IF you smell leaking gas.**
- ✓ Check your building/home for cracks and damage - including the roof, chimneys, and foundation.
- ✓ Turn on your portable radio for emergency instructions.
- ✓ Do not use your vehicle unless there is an emergency. Keep the streets clear for emergency vehicles.
- ✓ Be prepared for aftershocks.

### Drop, Cover & Hold On!

**No matter where you are, know how to protect yourself and your family during an earthquake!**

### Can You Go It Alone For Three Days?

During the first 72 hours after an earthquake electricity, gas, water, and telephones may not be working. You should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least three days following a quake and more likely up to a week. The following is a list of supplies you should have on hand in an emergency kit:

Food, water, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, flashlights with extra batteries, portable battery operated radio, extra blankets, clothing, sturdy shoes, cash, alternate cooking sources, medicines, eye glasses, food for pets, and tools.

### For More Information

[www.oes.ca.gov](http://www.oes.ca.gov)

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)