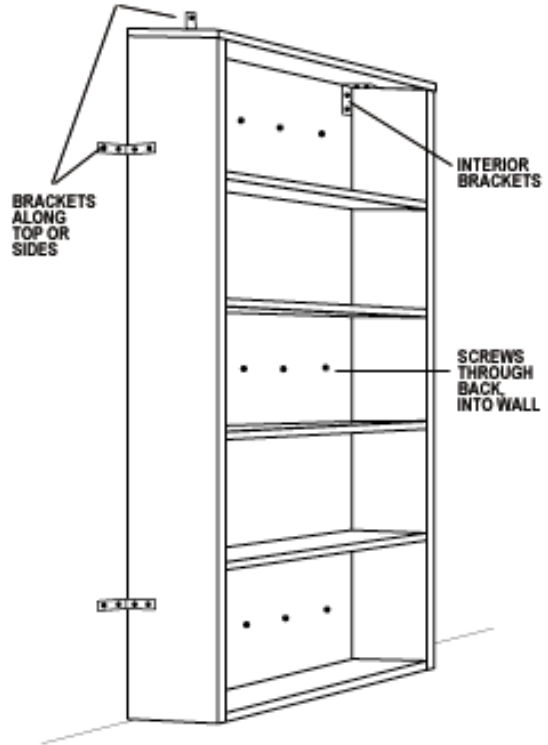


# SECURING FURNITURE

An earthquake can move even heavy furniture, especially if it's top heavy. Bolt bookcases, china cabinets, and other tall furniture to wall studs. The drawing at the right shows three different methods for attaching a bookshelf or other tall piece of furniture to the wall



Remember to keep heavier items on bottom shelves. Fragile items on display can be secured with museum wax or hook and loop tape

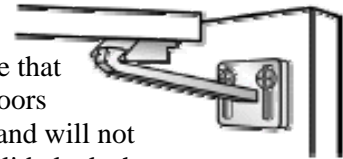
### Install Latches on Drawers and Cabinet Doors

During an earthquake, drawers and cabinet doors can open and the stored materials can spill out and damage floors and floor coverings. Objects that fall from overhead cabinets can injure you or members of your family.

Installing latches on cabinet doors and drawers so that they will remain closed during an earthquake is something that many homeowners can probably do on their own.

One way to prevent the accidental opening of drawers and cabinet doors is to install latches such as barrel bolts, safety hasps, and child-proof locks.

Most hardware and home supply stores stock a variety of latches. The drawings show two types of child-proof locks, one that can be used for drawers or cabinet doors and one for cabinet doors only. Most types of permanent latches can be installed easily and will not interfere with opening and closing of drawers and doors. The slide lock shown at right can be used on cabinets that do not need to be opened frequently; it is easily installed and removed.



Keep these points in mind when you install latches on drawers and cabinet doors:

- When possible, do not store heavy, breakable, or dangerous items (such as insecticides, solvents, and bleach) in overhead cabinets.
- Do not rely on magnetic or pinch-grip catches to hold cabinet doors closed, especially on overhead cabinets and any cabinets that contain heavy, breakable, or dangerous items.
- Install latches according to the manufacturer's directions. For example, use all of the hardware provided with the latch and do not substitute undersized screws or bolts for those provided.

