

# 1. Be prepared for disaster

## Disaster response steps you can take at home.

The safety of pet owners comes first.

By making quake-resistant reinforcements to your home and securing your furniture, you can make your home safe for both you and your pets.

Make sure to regularly inspect areas where your pets usually spend their time, and check to see that their cages and other equipment are securely held in place so that they can stay in the area safely even during a disaster.

### If you keep your pet indoors

Make sure that your furniture, your pet's cage, and other equipment are fastened securely to keep them from tipping over or falling during an earthquake. If you have an aquarium, fasten it to its table and apply anti-shattering film on its glass surfaces.



### If you keep your pet outdoors

Keep your pet's living area away from concrete block walls, glass windows, and buildings that could collapse. Inspect their collars and chains regularly to make sure that they are in good condition, and that there are no gaps in their cages or partitions.



## Involve your entire family.

Discuss various disaster scenarios with your family. Before you decide to get a pet, discuss whether you would be able to protect your pet and evacuate with it during a disaster and what type of animal (species) you would like to have as your pet. Be sure to discuss the following.

- How family members will get in touch with each other.
- Where your emergency supplies, including evacuation bags, are stored and what they contain.
- How you intend to protect and evacuate your pet.
- What actions to take if a disaster strikes when no one is home.



## Cooperation with your neighbors and other pet owners is critical during a disaster.

To establish a good relationship with your neighbors and ensure that you are able to help each other during a disaster, make sure to communicate regularly with others, observe good pet owner etiquette, and discuss disaster mitigation with your neighbors and other pet owners in your area. Make arrangements for a person or place that can accommodate your pet in an emergency.