



Know Your Best Survival Shelter in Severe Weather

If a tornado is approaching, where should you seek refuge? Weather experts recommend the following:

- When in an office building, basements and first floor interior rooms or interior hall ways provide the best protection.
- When in buildings with large free-span roofs (which are very vulnerable, especially on upper floors), basements provide the best protection. The next safest refuge would be small interior rooms.
- When in your home, a basement will provide the best protection. In lieu of a basement, take cover in small interior rooms with stout walls.
- When you are in open country seek shelter in a building, if time permits. If not, lie flat in a ravine, ditch, or depression and cover your head. Remember, a vehicle is an unsafe tornado shelter.

When severe weather is forecast for your area, listen to a local radio or TV station, or monitor NOAA weather radio. New weather alert radios are available which allow you to program the receiver activation feature for selected counties and/or cities.

Develop plans in advance of seasons known for their storm activity. Have a primary plan of action and at least one alternative plan. If a tornado event is imminent, you only have limited time to react. When you develop your plan, REMEMBER--seeking shelter under overpass girders "always works on TV", but doesn't always work in real life!

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