



Kitchen & Cabinet Safety

Kitchen Cabinets

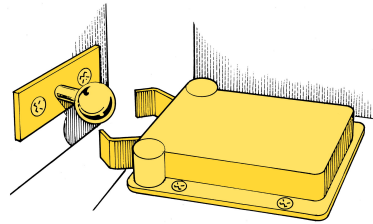
The ground undulation and acceleration of an earthquake can cause cabinet doors to fly open and contents to spill onto the floor. Glass jars and dishes can shatter and cause injuries and damage. Heavy objects can fly across the room, injuring any in their path or damaging counter tops, floors, or walls.



Securing kitchen cabinets

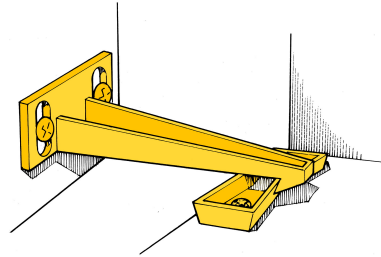
To prevent cabinet doors from flying open, install one of the following types of latches:

- A. Hook and eye – inexpensive; you may not close it every time
- B. Standard latch – mounts to the front of the door; you may not close it every time
- C. Standard latch – closes automatically; mounts to the front of the door
- D. Push latches – mounts inside the door; holds the door firmly shut; opens by being pushed gently inward
- E. Child-proof – inexpensive; closes automatically; requires an extra action when you open the door; takes some getting used to



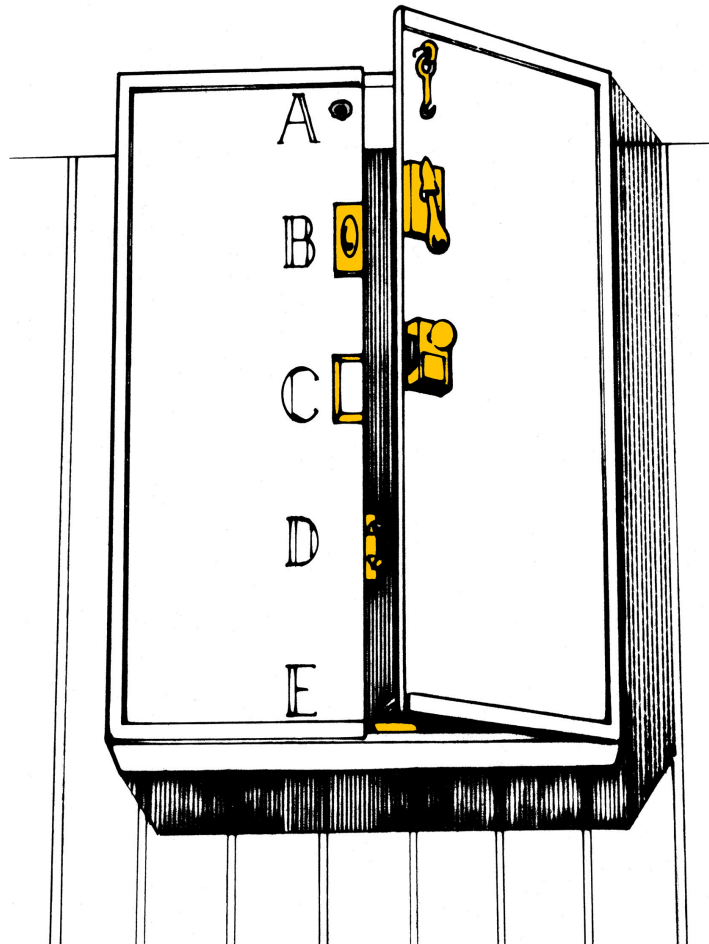
D. Push latch

- mounts inside cabinet
- opens by pushing gently inward on cabinet door



E. Child-proof latch

- inexpensive
- takes some getting used to - must reach inside cabinet to release latch



Securing cabinet contents

The contents of cabinets may shift and break in the movement of an earthquake. To help prevent this movement, line your cabinets with rubberized shelf mats. This typically is sold in rolls or pre-cut squares at hardware and variety stores. It is also available at recreational vehicle or boating equipment supply stores.

To **protect stacked china plates**, place a square of this rubberized matting between each plate in the stack.

