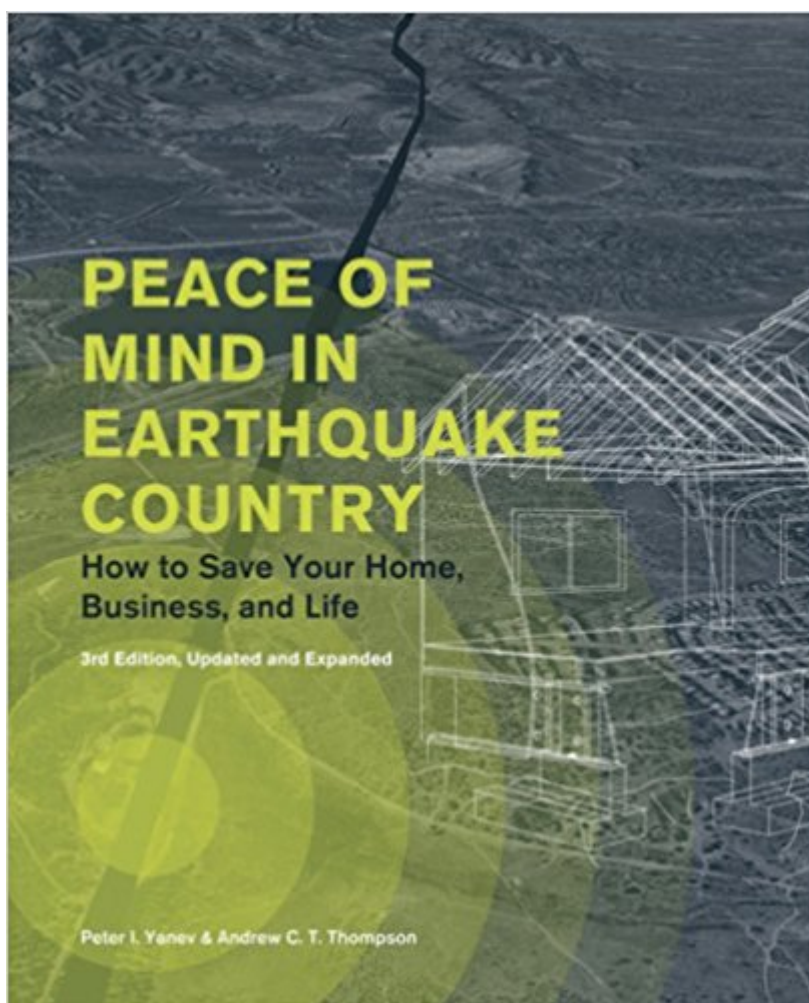


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Peace Of Mind In Earthquake Country: How To Save Your Home, Business, And Life



Synopsis

In this updated and expanded third edition, seismic engineer Peter Yanev and risk management consultant Andrew Thompson explain how to prepare one's property to withstand a powerful quake, and how to protect one's family during and after the chaos. Residents of earthquake country learn why and how earthquakes occur, which construction methods are best suited for fault zones, and how to shore up existing buildings to survive the next big one. This comprehensive resource deconstructs complicated insurance policies, maps existing and suspected faults, and demystifies terms like 'liquifaction' and 'cripple walls.'

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Customer Reviews

Peter Yanev, a visiting professor at Stanford University, has over 35 years of earthquake engineering experience. Andrew C.T. Thompson is an earthquake risk management consultant at Arup Group. He lives in San Francisco, California.

I've relied on the second edition for teaching about earthquake-safe and -unsafe construction for years. This new third edition brings the book up to date, and makes it available to order again. If one lives in California, and only wants to read 10 pages, SCEC's online "Putting Down Roots" serves. If one wants 200 clearly written and well illustrated pages, Peace of Mind is the book. Although the printing is black and white, the presentation is engaging and very accessible. The book has a sensible organization - discussing first about earthquakes, then problems with buildings, ways to

build correctly for earthquakes, and finally insurance and how to prepare. There is an extensive index, appendices to show national and global hazards, and useful regional web links. For those more curious about earthquakes than engineering, I'd recommend *Earthshaking Science: What We Know (and Don't Know) about Earthquakes*, or *Living With Earthquakes in the Pacific Northwest*. I highly recommend this book, and especially the latest edition, and plan to use it this winter in my course.

This is the third revisiting of this book. The first was back in the 1970's when it talked about the San Fernando quake. It's a very good source for the layman for help in understanding earthquakes, challenges in siting a building, pros and cons of various construction and ways to mitigate the various risk. Are there more technical books out there? Sure, but they are mostly aimed at the student or the professional. Yanev also lays out the risk/benefit ratio when it comes to earthquake insurance. If you live within 50 miles of a major fault, (and who doesn't) I feel this is a must have book.

I was in the process of finishing my own book on the greatest earthquake in history - Valdivia, Chile - May 1960. I wanted to wrap up the discussion with some comments about the importance of earthquake engineering, structures and "anti-seismic" construction. This book is just what I needed. Thorough, without becoming overly tedious, it gives a fairly complete overview of the various facets of earthquakes and how man-made structures react to seismic waves. The book focuses on Southern California, but includes bits of information and history of other areas of the world. Black and white photos are not dressy, but serve quite well in illustrating the author's concepts.

If you live on the Left Coast of the US, you should buy this book. Yanev details not only the risks of earthquakes, but what you - as a homeowner or renter - can do to increase your chance of survival. Practical, accessible and interesting.

Great general earthquake information as well as information about buildings, the good and bad. Very helpful tips on what to do before, during and after a quake.

The information was exactly what we were wanting to explore.

Indispensable in California.

excellent

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