



Understanding Your Building Code



Modern building codes ensure that your home is built using the latest practices and standards to protect against disasters like floods and hurricane winds. But what if your home is older and you don't know what codes your builder followed?

According to Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) research, eight in ten Americans are not worried about codes as they believe they already have what they need to be safe. However, only one-third of U.S. communities have the codes necessary to meet Mother Nature's wrath.

FLASH and partners created the new "Strong Homes Scale" (Scale) and added it to the building code transparency website, Inspect2Protect.org. The Scale indicates how close a home is to meeting or exceeding the resilience features included in the 2024 International Residential Code. This allows you to develop a framework for understanding how well your home can withstand six major natural disasters – including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, and winter storms.

For each of the six hazards, there is a checklist of approximately 7–11 key structural features that make a home resilient to each hazard, including roof-to-wall anchoring for hurricanes or foundation reinforcement for earthquakes.

Strong, modern building codes are the first and most crucial ingredient to building a strong, safe home because they require features that keep you safe. Visit Inspect2Protect.org today so that you can be "Code Confident."

2 OUT OF 3 Two out of three places prone to severe weather **don't have** the **building codes they need.**

See if your local building codes protect you.
InspectToProtect.org

NO CODE. NO CONFIDENCE.