

At-A-Glance

Shelter-In-Place

Whether you are at home, work or elsewhere, there may be situations when it's simply best to stay where you are and avoid any uncertainty outside.

There may be circumstances when staying put and creating a barrier between yourself and potentially contaminated air outside, a process known as "sealing the room," is a matter of survival.

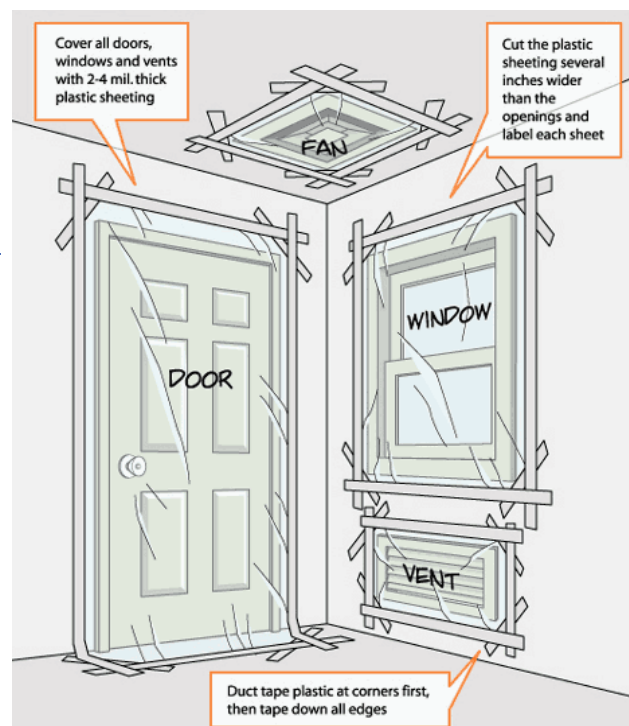


When to Shelter-In-Place...

- If you suspect that the outside air is contaminated.
- If conditions outside make travel hazardous (extreme cold, high wind, blowing debris, high water etc.).
- If local emergency officials instruct you to "shelter-in-place."

When Sheltering-In-Place...

- Bring your family and pets inside.
- Lock doors, close windows, air vents and fireplace dampers.
- Turn off fans, air conditioning and forced air heating systems.
- Take your emergency supply kit unless you have reason to believe it has been contaminated.
- Go into an interior room with few windows, if possible.
- Seal all windows, doors and air vents with 2-4 mil. thick plastic sheeting and duct tape. Consider measuring and cutting the sheeting in advance to save time.
- Cut the plastic sheeting several inches wider than the openings and label each sheet.
- Duct tape plastic at corners first and then tape down all edges.
- Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to seal gaps so that you create a barrier between yourself and any contamination.



Staying put and creating a barrier between yourself and potentially contaminated air outside, a process known as "**sealing the room**," is a matter of survival. Use what you have on hand to seal gaps creating a barrier between yourself and any contamination.

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)