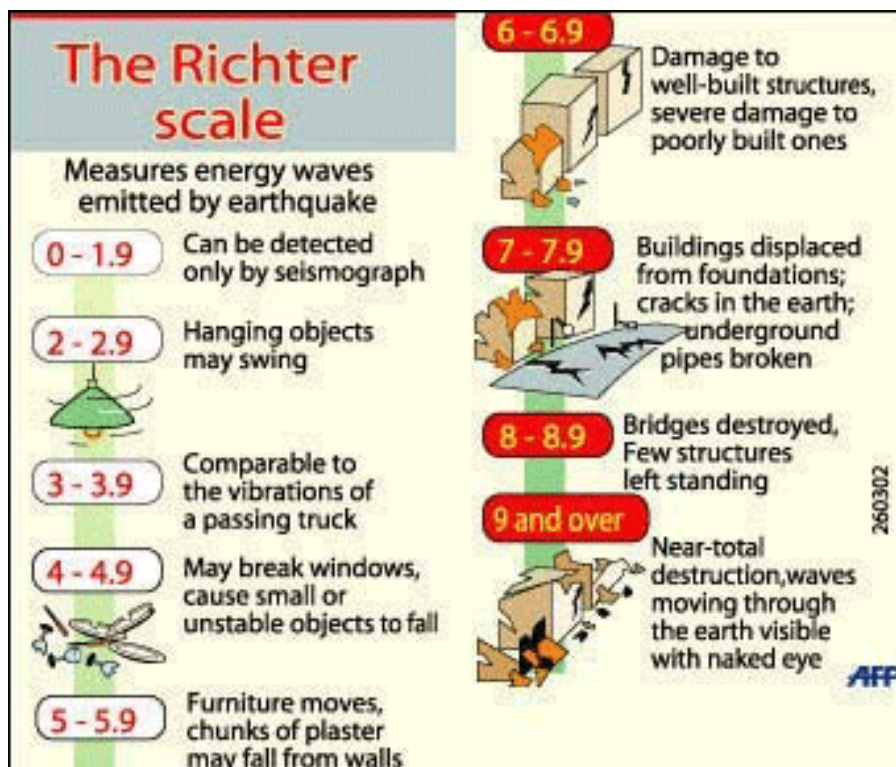


The Richter scale

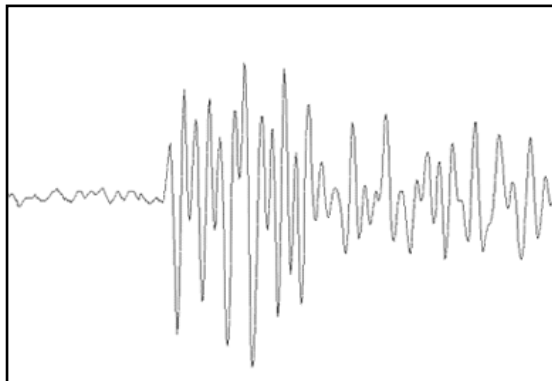
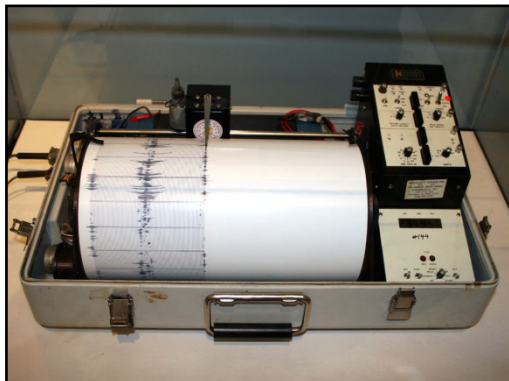


| RICHTER SCALE | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| Magnitude | Description | What it feels like | Frequency |
| Less than 2.0 | Micro | Normally only recorded by seismographs. Most people cannot feel them. | Millions per year. |
| 2.0-2.9 | Minor | A few people feel them. No building damage. | Over 1 million per year. |
| 3.0-3.9 | Minor | Some people feel them. Objects inside can be seen shaking. | Over 100,000 per year. |
| 4.0-4.9 | Light | Most people feel it. Indoor objects shake or fall to floor. | 10,000 to 15,000 per year. |
| 5.0-5.9 | Moderate | Can damage or destroy buildings not designed to withstand earthquakes. Everyone feels it. | 1,000 to 1,500 per year. |
| 6.0-6.9 | Strong | Wide spread shaking far from epicenter. Damages buildings. | 100 to 150 per year. |
| 7.0-7.9 | Major | Wide spread damage in most areas. | 10 to 20 per year. |
| 8.0-8.9 | Great | Wide spread damage in large areas. | About 1 per year. |
| 9.0-9.9 | Great | Severe damage to most buildings. | 1 per 5-50 years. |
| 10.0 or over | Massive | Never Recorded. | Never recorded. |

How to make your own tin can seismograph

You will need:

Large tin can, sand, string, tape, pencil, white paper, table



Here is an actual seismograph...

...and here is the 'trace' the pen is leaving on the paper.

1. Tape the string to the sides of your can. Make the string loop long enough for someone to hold.
2. Tape a pencil to the side of the tin can so it can record the vibrations during your 'earthquake'.
3. Place a sheet of paper on the table.
4. One person holds the tin can so the pencil tip just touches the table.
5. One person moves the table back and forth or hits it gently with a solid object to simulate an earthquake.
6. The third person pulls on the paper forward in a straight line, as the pencil traces the table movements.
7. Repeat the experiment with every person getting to hold the tin can, make the table move and pull the paper. Congratulations! You are all now seismologists!

