

# HOW TO SECURE YOUR PROPERTY AFTER A DISASTER



**THE RED GUIDE TO RECOVERY**

## HOUSE SECURED PROPERLY

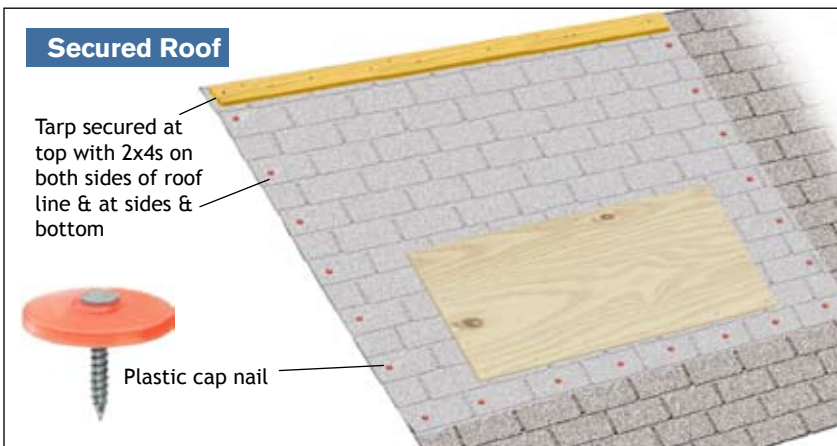
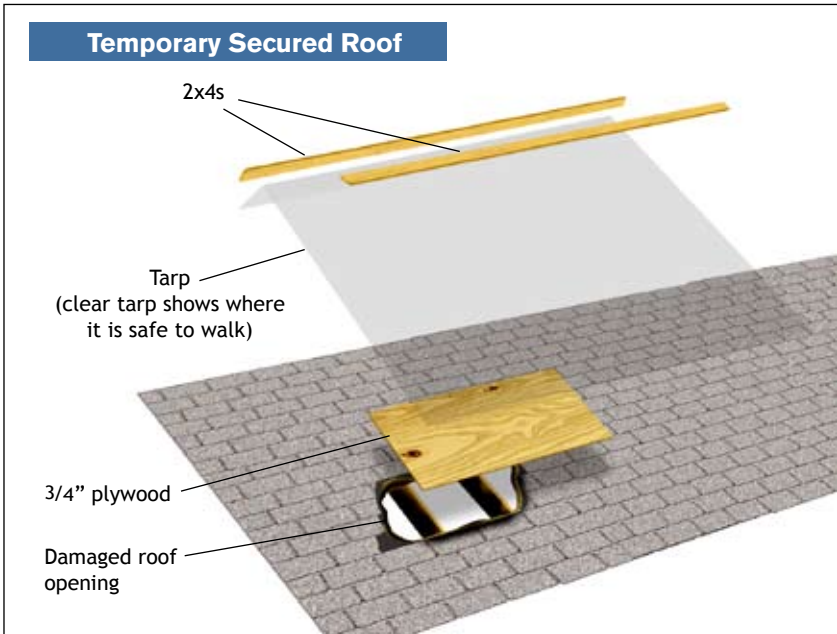


### **Board-Up of Windows, Doors and Roof Hole. Lot secured with Perimeter Fencing.**

**F**ires, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes or other natural disasters can damage your house, making it uninhabitable. This guide is meant to give you some practical steps for protecting and securing your home after a disaster but before you begin permanent repairs.

## PROTECT AND SECURE ROOF

- Completely cover roof opening with 3/4" plywood sheet, secure to roof with nails, or double-headed nails, plastic cap nails, etc.
- Cover plywood with tarp, extending up and over the roof line, and secure with 2x4s on both sides of roof line.
- Secure tarp along sides and bottom with roof-fastening nails.



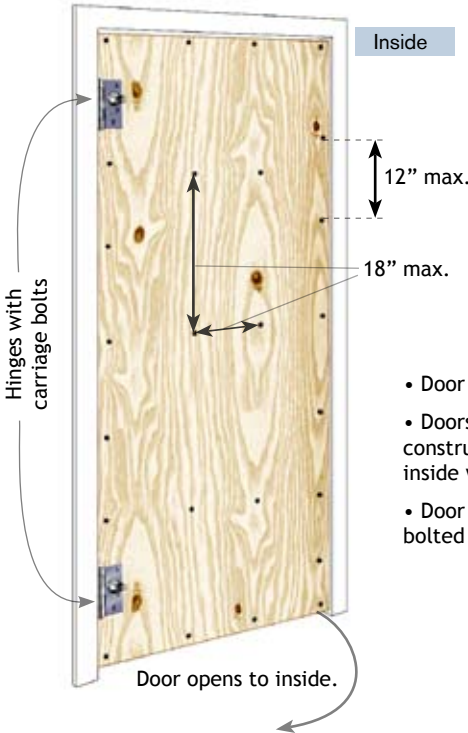
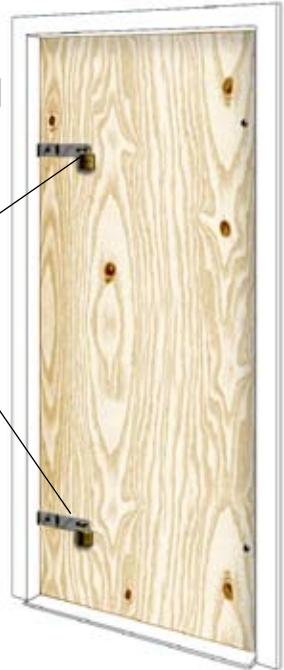
# SECURE VACANT BUILDING

- Entry door may be exterior grade solid core door.
- Coverings for main entry doors should be 2 - 3/4" plywood sheets screwed together from inside, spaced 12" o.c. & hinged to door frame.
- Main entry doors should be secured with two new 3" hasps.

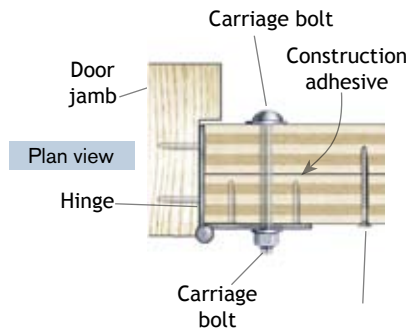
## DOORS

- Door thickness 3/4"
- Original existing door removed & stored inside the building

## Entry Doors



- Door built with 2 - 3/4" plywood sheets.
- Doors should be secured together with construction adhesive & screwed together from inside with 1 1/4" screws
- Door hinged to the door frame & hinges thru-bolted with carriage bolts.



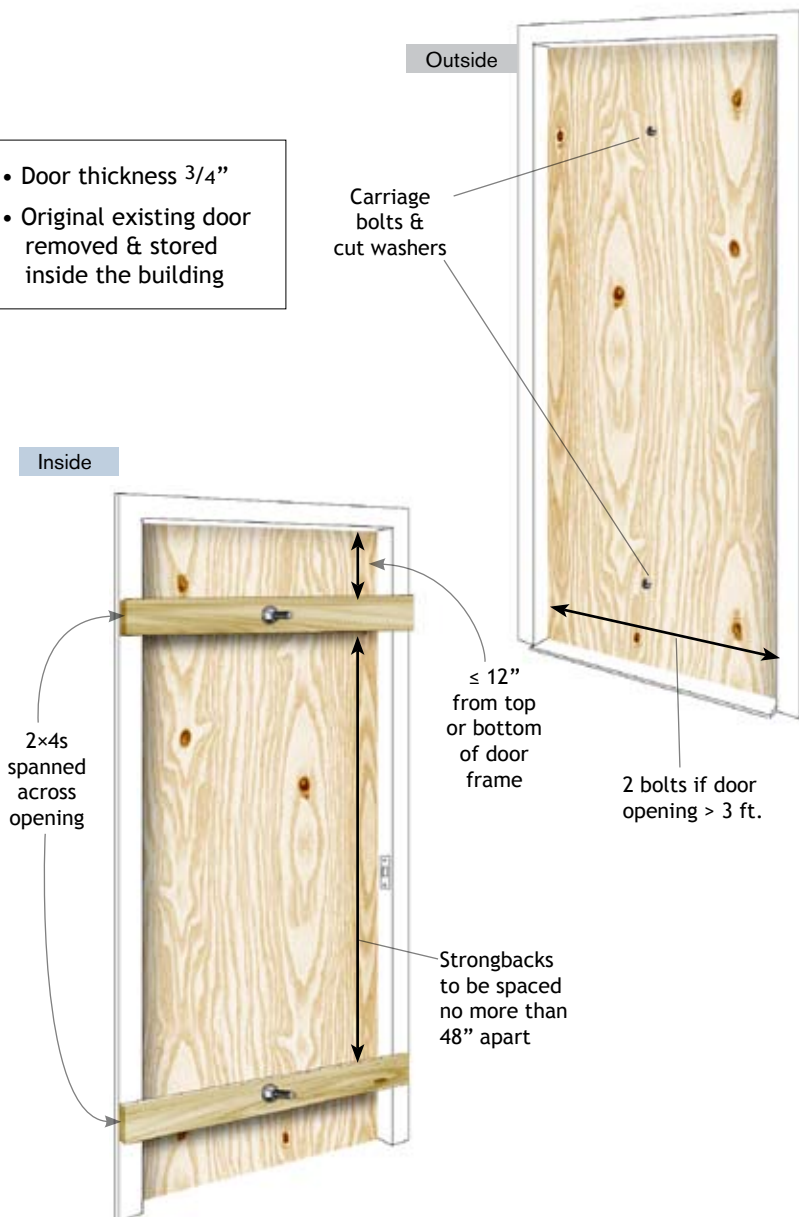
Door fits into door frame from inside, placed securely behind the doorstop. Hinge secures door to door frame. Carriage bolt to be thru-bolted through each hinge. If entry door hinge can be removed, the new hinge may be attached in its place.

# SECURE VACANT BUILDING

## DOORS

## Non-entry Doors

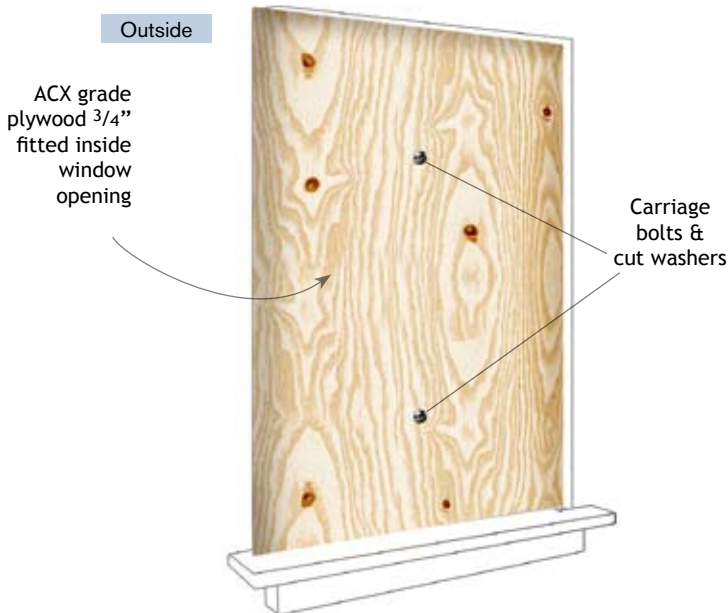
- Door thickness 3/4"
- Original existing door removed & stored inside the building



## SECURE VACANT BUILDING

- All exterior openings (floor, wall, roof) within 10 feet vertically of the adjoining ground or within 6 feet vertically or horizontally of a stair or landing which provide access to the interior of the building or basement or underfloor area should be completely covered with plywood. Glazing should be preserved intact.
- Removed windows should be stored within the building.
- Plywood should be new and:
  - ◆ Exterior glue
  - ◆ 3/4" nominal thickness (windows & doors)
  - ◆ Grade ACX surface finishes (smoother surface exposed to the exterior)
- Plywood should fit tightly into openings & should be secured in place with:
  - ◆ 1/2" diameter galvanized carriage bolts, washers, & nuts spaced not more than 36" apart and installed through wood "strongbacks" on the interior of the opening.
- "Strongbacks" should be new wood &:
  - ◆ Spanned completely across the opening
  - ◆ 2" x 4" nominal cross-sectional dimension
  - ◆ Spaced not more than 48" apart
  - ◆ Within 12" of the top and bottom of the opening
- Plywood covering stationery windows should be screwed to adjoining wood framing.

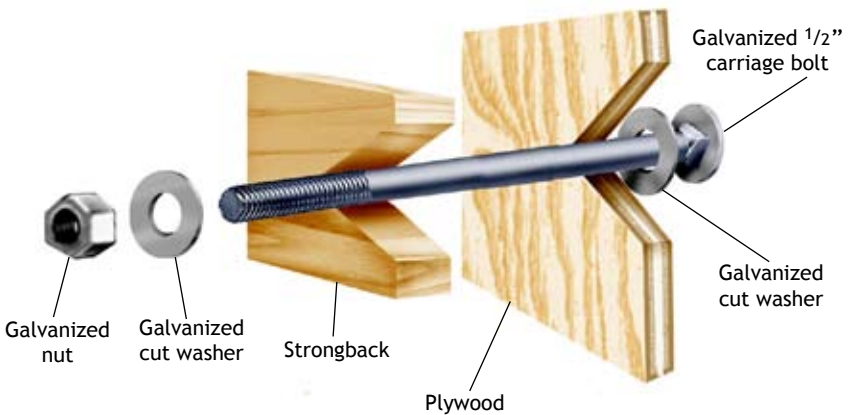
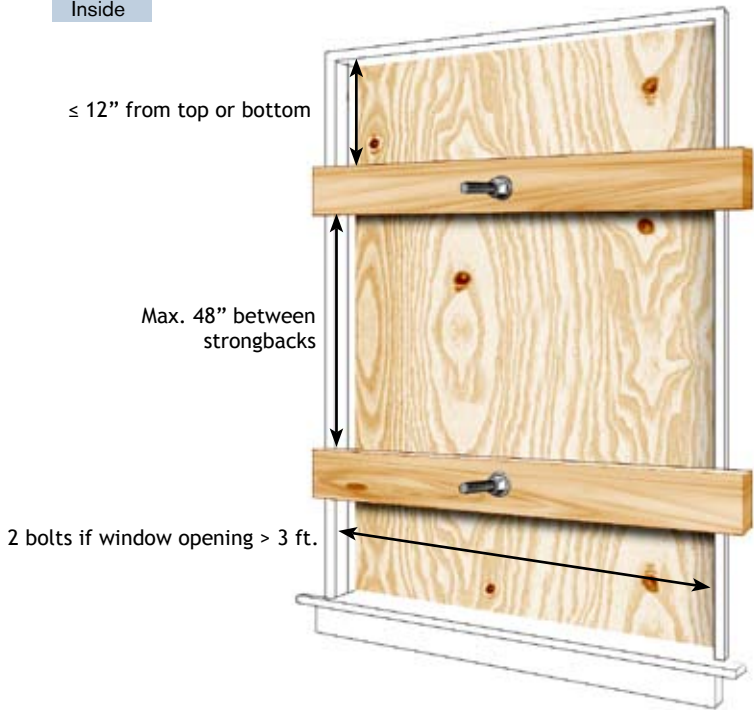
## WINDOWS



# SECURE VACANT BUILDING

## WINDOWS

Inside



# SECURE VACANT BUILDING

## WINDOWS

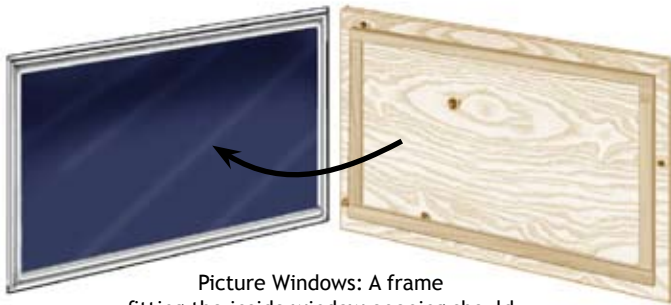
Windows to be removed & stored, unless double-hung windows can be moved away from the top & bottom to accommodate strongbacks

Casement Windows:  
Hinges or hinge pins should be removed & windows stored inside the building.



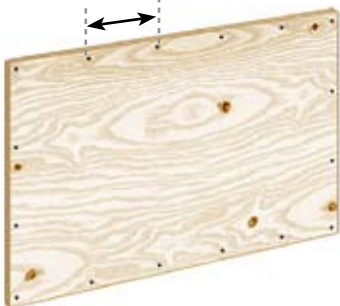
### Picture Windows

- Coverings for picture windows should be framed internally with 1 x 4s & fitted inside window opening: screwed to window frame with 3" screws.



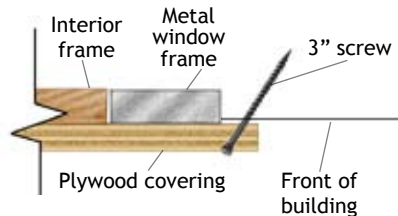
Picture Windows: A frame fitting the inside window opening should be attached to the interior side of plywood cover with 1 1/4" screws & plywood should be screwed to the building's window frame.

24" max. distance between screws



Picture Windows with metal frame: Should be screwed at an angle to building with 3" screws.

#### Plan view

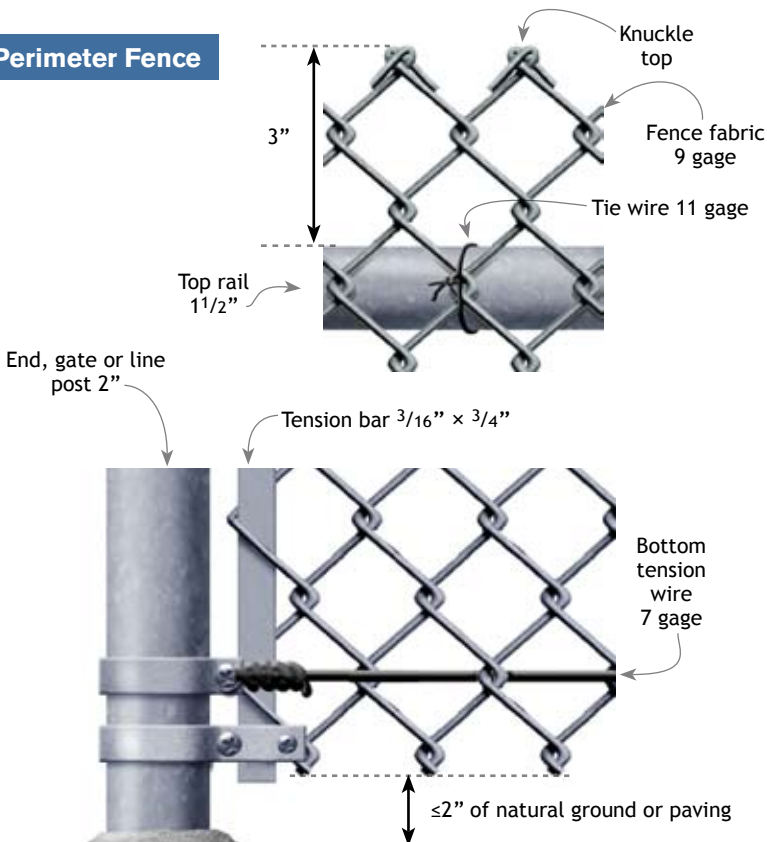




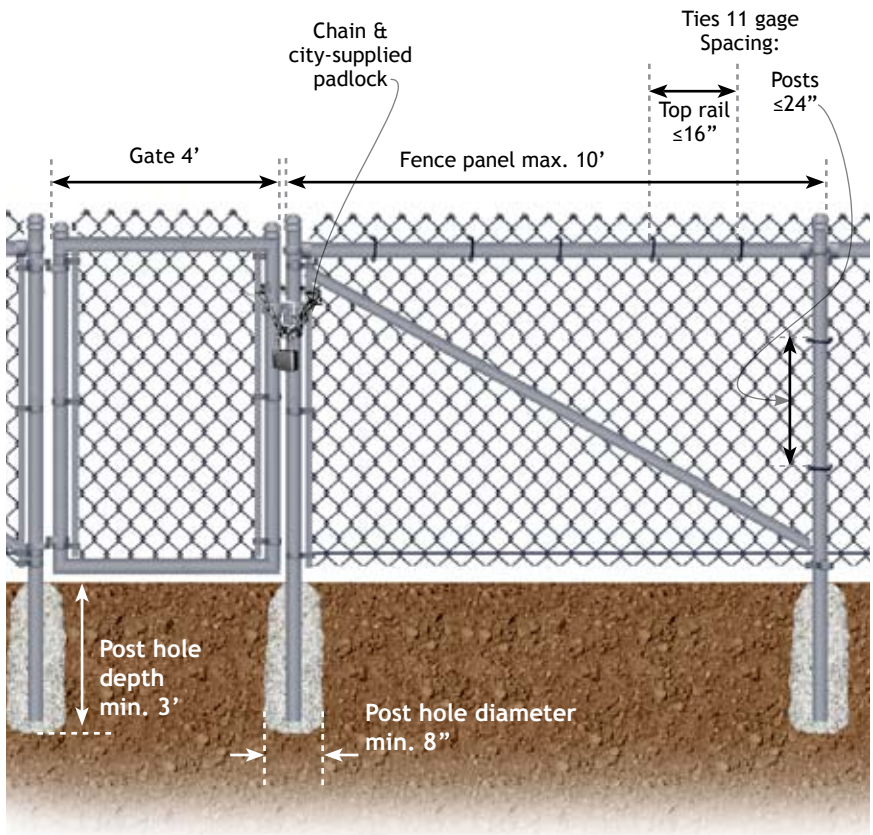
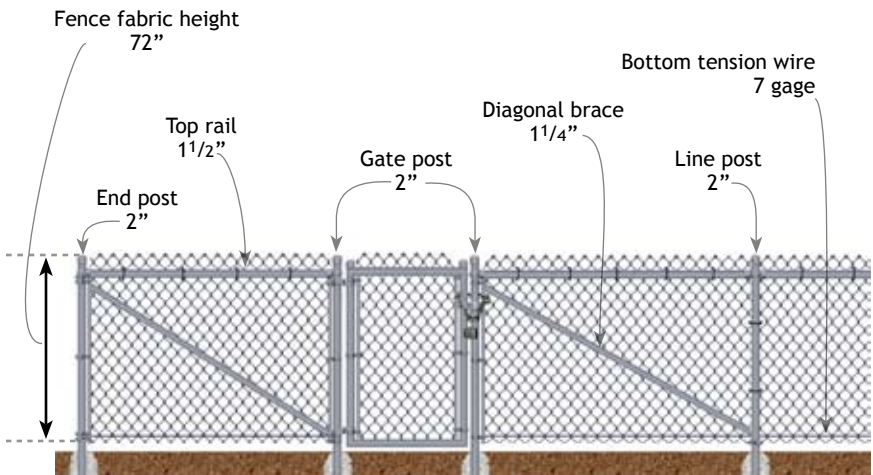
## SECURING LOT WITH PERIMETER FENCING

- Tension bar should be  $\frac{3}{16}$ "  $\times$   $\frac{3}{4}$ " galvanized.
- End & gate posts should have diagonal braces.
- Chain link fence fabric should be 72", 9 gage, 2" galvanized mesh, with knuckle-top edge.
- Posts, diagonal braces, & top rails should be NPS schedule 40 galvanized.
- Gates should be 48" wide galvanized & secured with a lock & chain.
- Chain link fabric should be tied with 11 gage wire every 16" to top rails & every 24" to posts.
- Post holes should be 8" diameter, 36" deep, & filled with Portland Cement concrete (4 sack mix).
- Posts should be 2", Top rails should be  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", Diagonal braces should be  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", Bottom tension wire should be 7 gage.

### Perimeter Fence



## Perimeter Fence





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