

# Special Alarms

Special alarms are issued when a major incident on the scale of the Great East Japan Earthquake or the Isewan Typhoon is anticipated.

## In the event of a special alarm

- Extraordinary events such as a very heavy rain are expected.
- A major disaster is highly likely to occur.
- Be sure to take immediate action to protect yourself.

## Emergency Situations

Follow the evacuation instructions from Osaka City and move immediately to an evacuation center!

**When it is dangerous to be outside, stay indoors in a safer place!**

The need to move outside depends on where the house is located, the structure of the house, and whether the house is already flooded. Be ready to make decisions calmly so that you can save your life in a disaster.

*Point*

**Remain calm. Base your actions on the situation around you!  
Evacuating in flood waters is very dangerous!**

## Basis for issuing a Special Alarm

### ◆ Weather

Type of situation	Criteria	
Heavy rain	Because of typhoons or torrential downpours, once-in-a-decade rainfall is expected.	
Storm winds	Due to a typhoon on a scale that happens once in several decades or an extratropical cyclone of about the same strength,	violent winds are expected.
High tide		high tides are expected.
Tidal waves		tidal waves are expected.
Blizzard	Strong winds with blowing snow are expected due to typhoon of a scale that happens once in several decades or an extratropical cyclone of equivalent strength.	
Heavy snow	Heavy snowfall with amounts seen once in several decades is expected.	

(“Criteria for the Announcement of Special Warnings Concerning Weather, etc.” (from the website of the Japan Meteorological Agency))

### ◆ Tsunami/Earthquake

Type of situation	Criteria
Tsunami	A tsunami more than 3m at its highest point is expected. (A large tsunami alarm is designated as special alarm.)
Earthquake (Earthquake tremors)	Earthquake tremors stronger than a low 6 intensity, or long-period ground motion class 4 is predicted (An Earthquake Early Warning, (when stronger than a low 6 intensity, or long-period ground motion class 4) is designated as special alarm.)

(“Criteria for the Announcement of Special Warnings Concerning Tsunamis and Earthquakes (Seismic Mots)” (from the website of the Japan Meteorological Agency))

## Declaration of Disaster Mode

Osaka Prefecture has introduced the “Disaster Mode Declaration” to alert residents and businesses that a wide-area large-scale disaster has occurred or is imminent, and to encourage them to switch from their daily routines to disaster preparedness. When the prefectural government issues a “Disaster Mode Declaration,” information will be disseminated via the prefectural website, prefectural disaster prevention information e-mail, Yahoo !Disaster Prevention Bulletin, various SNS, etc., and the city will also inform its citizens of the declaration.

### Declaration Guideline

- The following is conducted when a typhoon with a maximum wind speed of 30 m or more in the Osaka prefecture area is expected to make landfall or approach the prefecture area according to weather observatory forecasts.
- The program is implemented when the seismic intensity of 6 or lower is observed in the prefecture area.