The New Soft-Story Program offers Homeowners even more support.

MY Step-by-Step HOME RETROFIT PLANNER





WELCOME TO EARTHQUAKE SOFT-STORY

PRE-RETROFIT

Step 1

You have up to 12 weeks to complete the **Pre-Retrofit** requirements. It is recommended you begin your search for a contractor from the ESS Contractor Directory as soon as possible, as the process of obtaining bids and hiring a contractor can be time-consuming.

To stay on track, you may wish to follow this suggested timeline:

WEEKS 1-2

To hire a contractor, contact contractors listed on the ESS Directory and schedule your appointments.



WEEKS **3-5**

Meet with contractors and receive bids. If your retrofit bid is more than \$10,000, you must get more than one bid.



WEEKS **6-7**

Select a contractor and upload bid(s) to your dashboard. If you choose the higher bid, state the reason.



WEEKS **8-11**

Have your contractor obtain a building permit (see Building Permit inset for information that must be included on permit).



Check as you complete each step.

GET READY TO RETROFIT!

PRE-RETROFIT CONTINUED



You or your contractor must upload these items to your Homeowner Dashboard for approval:

- Copy of your building permit (see inset)
- Plans/Drawings
- Five photos of house exterior with date stamp
- Two photos of garage area before retrofit*
- · One crawl space photo if applicable
- Contractor Bid(s)



BUILDING PERMIT Required Information:

- Description of Work/Project Description that states retrofit is "in accordance with" FEMA P-1100
- Project Address
- City or County
- Permit Number
- Issue Date

NOTE: Building permit must be solely for the seismic retrofit work and may not include other work on the premise.

**Important: Permit must be dated after you were accepted into the program and it must reference FEMA P-1100.

*In JPG format and as specified in the Rules

Do not begin retrofit construction work until after Step 2.

Step 2 Pre-retrofit documents and photos will be forwarded to FEMA. Once FEMA approves, (most likely up to 10 weeks after submission), ESS will notify Homeowner. After you receive approval from ESS, continue to Step 3.

RETROFIT



You have six months from the day you received approval to schedule and complete construction of your retrofit.



POST-RETROFIT

Step 4

Gather final documentation and upload to your Homeowner Dashboard:



- Five photos of house exterior with date stamp taken after retrofit is complete
- Two photos taken from same vantage point as 'before' photos of garage area after retrofit
- *One photo showing crawl space retrofit, if applicable
- Two photos of water heater bracing and strapping (if water heater is tankless, two photos must show properly installed tankless water heater; no strapping necessary.)
- · Building permit with final inspection sign-off
- Invoice from licensed contractor that includes:
 - Business name, address, phone number and contractor license number and date work performed
 - Breakdown of costs by labor, materials, overhead and profit (see Program Rules for complete details)
 - · Indicate whether the payment will be sent to homeowner or contractor
- Payment Authorization Form (PAF)



Need Help?

Contact Customer Service Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (excluding holidays) at **info@EarthquakeSoftStory.com** or **877-232-4300.**