

# Earthquake Terminology

Liquefaction — Fault — Fault plane — Interplate quake  
Subduction — Seismic waves — Body waves  
Surface waves — Tectonic plates — Tsunami

Liquefaction	effect that causes soft soil to act like a liquid for a short period of time
Fault	crack in the rocky outer layer of the Earth where rock can move past each other
Fault plane	surface where rocks slide and grind against each other during an earthquake
Interplate quake	common type; happens where faults are at the boundaries between tectonic plates
Subduction	process where the edge of one tectonic plate sinks and pushes under the edge of another
Seismic waves	waves of vibration in the Earth's crust that start at the hypocenter of an earthquake
Body waves	fastest type of seismic waves; they travel through the ground
Surface waves	slower type of seismic waves; they travel on the surface of the Earth
Tectonic plates	interlocking pieces of the crust and upper mantle of the Earth
Tsunami	a series of enormous ocean waves sometimes caused by underwater earthquakes

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