



**No. 15-02**  
**Water Heater Seismic Strapping**

- Code edition:** 2014 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC)
- Code section:** Section 507.2
- Date:** Oct. 1, 2017 (Updated)  
Sept. 17, 2015 (Issued)
- Subject:** Water Heater Seismic Strapping
- Question:** Section 507.2 of the *Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC)* requires water heaters to be anchored or strapped in seismic categories C, D, E, and F. However, this section does not provide minimum standards for anchoring or strapping methods or materials.
- Answer:** Plumber’s tape or equivalent anchoring or strapping materials are acceptable. Connectors must have washers to assure the connector does not pull through the strapping. The following connectors are acceptable; #12 wood screw with 1½ inch penetration at each end, or ¼ inch diameter concrete anchor of 1½ inch minimum length.
- Analysis:** The division has determined that the minimum standards for seismic anchoring or strapping methods and materials contained in the rescinded interpretation are still applicable.
- Contact:** Visit the code program contacts page at the following web address to [contact a building code specialist](http://www.oregon.gov/bcd/codes-stand/Pages/code-program-contacts.aspx).
- <http://www.oregon.gov/bcd/codes-stand/Pages/code-program-contacts.aspx>

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