

1. J-ALERT

If North Korea launches a ballistic missile towards Japan, the time it takes for it to reach Japan would be extremely short. Hypothetically speaking, if it is expected that a missile will fly to Japan, the Japanese government will use the National Early Warning System (J-ALERT) at any time to transmit emergency messages.

When J-ALERT is used, the municipal disaster management radio communication system, etc. are automatically activated, and not only will the warning be broadcasted over loudspeakers outdoors, but also Area Mail (for targeted areas) and emergency messages will be sent to mobile phones.

2. Information Transmitted through J-ALERT

When J-ALERT is used, a siren and a warning message will be broadcasted over loudspeakers outdoors via the municipal disaster management radio communication system. The message is broadcasted only in Japanese.

You can hear the siren sound at the link below:

<https://www.kokuminhogo.go.jp/data/siren.mp3>

* The abovementioned siren sound is used only for information transmission relating to civil protection. The sounds used for emergency warnings in case of tsunami and other crises are different.

* Reproduction, recording, or inappropriate use of these sounds is PROHIBITED.

Furthermore, Area Mail (for targeted areas) and emergency messages informing of a missile launch will be sent to every mobile phone.

3. What To Do

If you hear the siren or emergency message ringtone mentioned above or receive a message from J-ALERT, stay calm and immediately follow the instructions below:

- When outdoors: Take shelter in a building or underground nearby.
 - Sturdier buildings are better, but if there are none around, any other building is fine.
- When there are no buildings around: Hide under anything that can provide shelter or lie flat on the ground covering your head.
- When indoors: Move away from windows or to a room without windows.

For more information, see the pamphlet and Q&A on actions in case of a ballistic missile flying to Japan (Available at the Civil Protection Portal Site in English).

* Civil Protection Portal Site: http://www.kokuminhogo.go.jp/en/pc-index_e.html