

# ☆ Q and A ☆

Q

What are the characteristics of  
**Interplate earthquake**  
and  
**Shallow earthquakes in the continental plate**

A

The main features are summarized in the table below.

Characteristics of interplate earthquakes and shallow earthquakes within the continental plate

Location of the earthquake	Interplate earthquake	Shallow earthquakes in the continental plate
Magnitude	Relatively large (~M9 class)	Relatively small (~M8 class)
Earthquake interval	Relatively short (Intervals of decades to hundreds of years)	Relatively long (Intervals of hundreds to tens of thousands of years)
Depth	near the trench / trough ~ deep (several km ~ 50km)	Relatively shallow (about several km ~ 20km)
Characteristics of shaking	It shakes in a wide area.	Since the epicenter is land and shallow, the area around the epicenter shakes strongly. The range of strong shaking is narrow.
Typical past earthquakes	The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake The 1944 Tonankai Earthquake	The 1995 Southern Hyogo Prefecture Earthquake The 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake
Related keyword	Trench, Trough, Tsunami	Active fault

The related keyword "active fault" will appear in the back panel.

