#4: BUILD YOUR HOUSE WITH GOOD MATERIALS

Some houses fell down because poor quality materials were used. Using good materials in the right way is essential for a strong house.

STONE USAGE

Small stones and mud between your outer and inner wall can push your walls apart in an earthquake. Instead use well stacked larger stones between your inner and outer wall.

STONE SELECTION

If using stones from your demolished house, clean any mortar from them.

Select large rectangular stones if possible. Where you can't, shape them.

MORTAR

Mud Mortar

It's important to use good quality mud, free of gravel.

Cement Mortar Mix

Be careful! Cement mortar is not always safer if you don't know how to use it.

1 Part Cement
6 Parts Sand

Cement Mortar Mix #2

1 Part Cement
2 Parts Lime
9 Parts Sand

Whether you use cement mortar or mud it is important to have the stones touching as much as possible. Rub the stones until they touch and minimise the gap/space between the stones as much as possible. The gap/space should be completely filled with mortar.