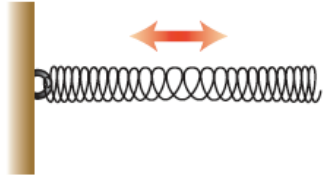
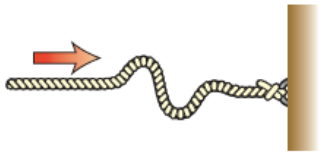



Table 12.3 Types of Seismic Waves

Seismic Wave	Abbreviation	Description	Ground Motion
Primary wave	P	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Type of body wave• First to arrive (fastest)• Ground squeezes and stretches in direction of wave travel.• Travels through solids, liquids, and gases	 A diagram illustrating the ground motion of a Primary (P) wave. It shows a vertical brown bar on the left representing a wall. A coiled spring is attached to the wall and extends to the right. A red double-headed arrow above the spring indicates that the ground motion is longitudinal, moving back and forth parallel to the direction of wave travel.
Secondary wave	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Type of body wave• Second to arrive (slower)• Ground motion is perpendicular to direction of wave travel.• Travels through solids but not liquids	 A diagram illustrating the ground motion of a Secondary (S) wave. It shows a vertical brown bar on the right representing a wall. A rope is attached to the wall and extends to the left. A red arrow above the rope points to the left, indicating the direction of wave travel. The rope is shown in a transverse wave pattern, moving up and down perpendicular to the direction of travel.
Surface wave	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Travels along Earth's surface• Last to arrive (slowest)• Ground motion is a rolling action, like ripples on a pond.	 A diagram illustrating the ground motion of a Surface (L) wave. It shows a blue wavy surface representing the Earth's surface. Below the surface, two circular arrows (one red, one blue) indicate a rolling motion, combining both transverse and longitudinal movements.