

HOUSE FIRES

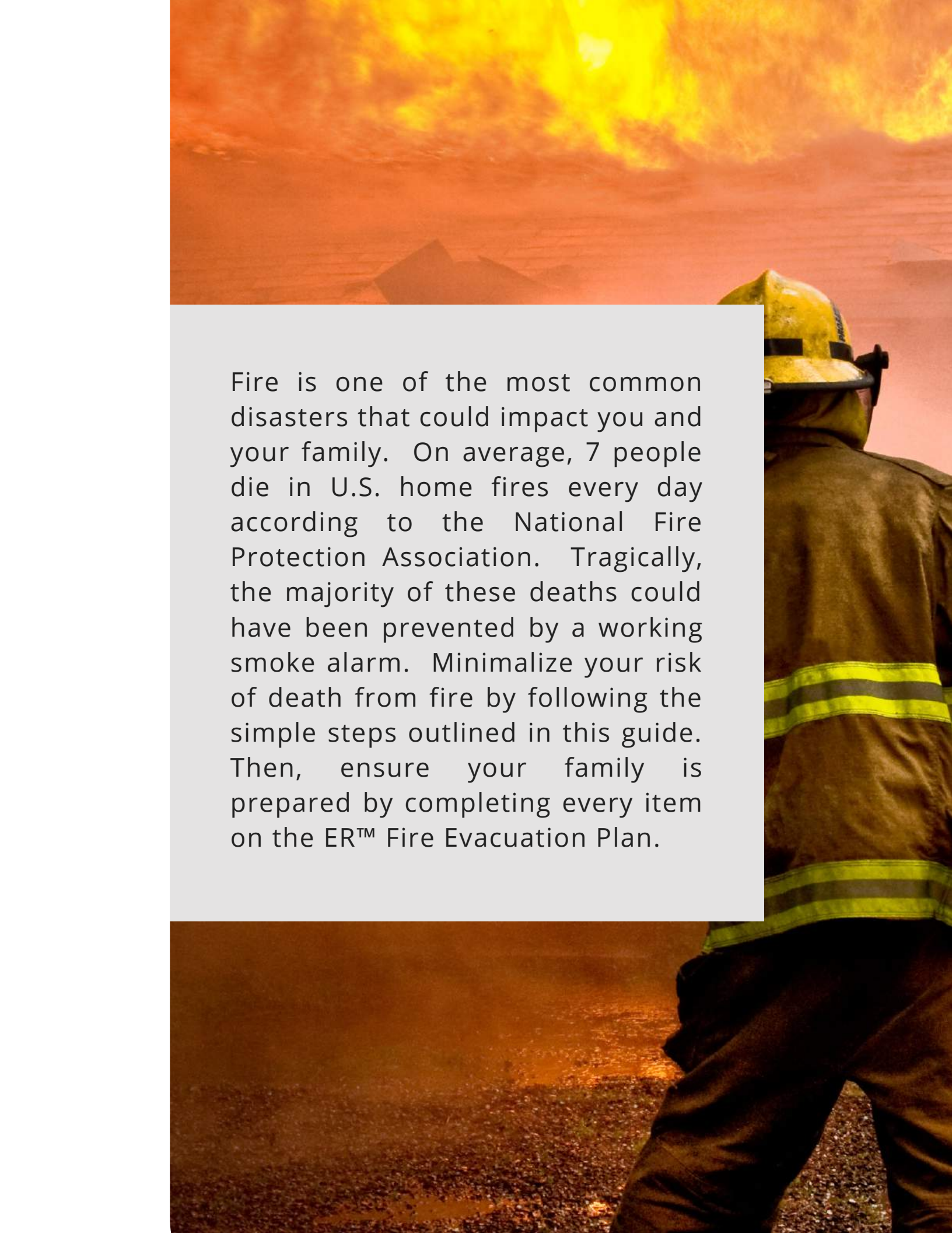
PREPARING | SURVIVING | RECOVERING



EMERGENCY READY
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Fire is one of the most common disasters that could impact you and your family. On average, 7 people die in U.S. home fires every day according to the National Fire Protection Association. Tragically, the majority of these deaths could have been prevented by a working smoke alarm. Minimalize your risk of death from fire by following the simple steps outlined in this guide. Then, ensure your family is prepared by completing every item on the ER™ Fire Evacuation Plan.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR A FIRE

MAKE YOUR HOME FIRE SAFE

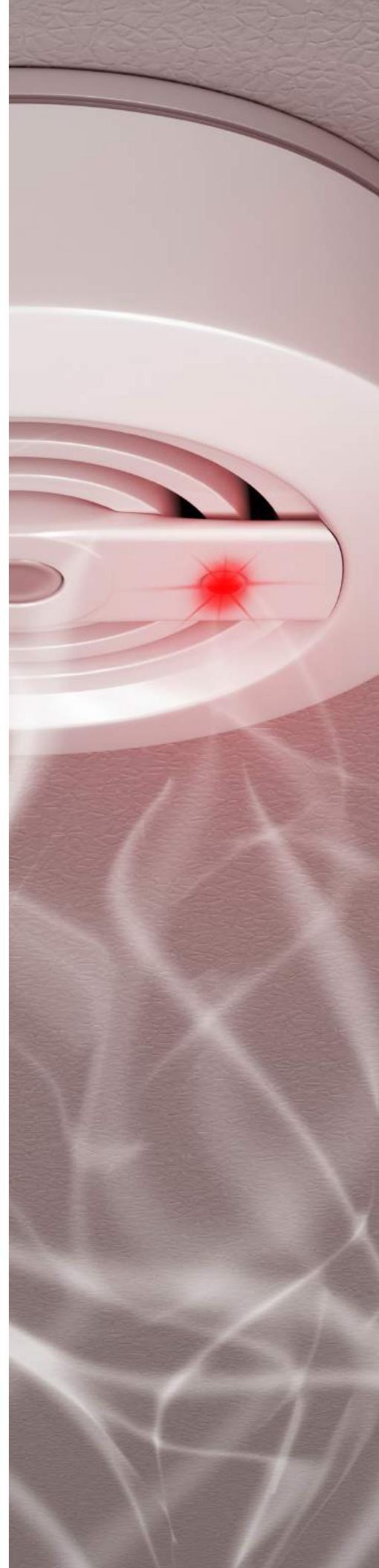
- **Smoke detectors save lives.** Install a battery-powered smoke detector in each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on each additional level of your home including the basement.
- **Test.** Use the test button to check each smoke detector once a month. When necessary, replace batteries immediately. Replace batteries at least once a year.
- **Have a working fire extinguisher.** Get training from the fire department in how to use it. Place the extinguisher in the kitchen and include written instructions on how to turn off the utilities in your house.
- **Conduct periodic fire drills.** Include every member of your family so everyone remembers what to do when there is a fire.

PLAN YOUR ESCAPE ROUTES

- Determine at least two ways to escape from every room of your home. If you must use an escape ladder, be sure everyone knows how to use it.
- Select a location outside your home where everyone would meet after escaping.
- Practice your escape plan at least twice a year. Once you are out, stay out!

ESCAPE QUICKLY & SAFELY

- If you see smoke in your first escape route, use your second way out.
- If you must exit through smoke, crawl low under the smoke to escape.
- If you are escaping through a closed door, feel the door before opening it. If it is hot, use your second way out.
- If smoke, heat, or flames block your exit routes, stay in the room with the door closed. Signal for help using a bright-colored cloth at the window.
- If there is a telephone in the room, call the fire department and tell them where you are.



Provide a copy of this plan to all family members and house guests. Practice your plan often.

New smoke detectors installed: _____ (date)

Batteries replaced: _____ (date)

Test smoke detectors once a month: _____ (date)

Start a chart and sign it after each round of tests.

_____ (family member name) assigned to check smoke detectors.

Look at the fire extinguisher you have to ensure it is properly charged. Use the gauge or test button to check proper pressure. If the unit is low on pressure, damaged, or corroded replace it or have it professionally serviced.

Request training from the fire department on how to use the fire extinguisher.

_____ (family member name) assigned to examine extinguisher.

_____ (family member names) have been trained to use the extinguisher.

Draw a floor plan of your home; mark two fire escape routes for each room.

Floor plan completed: _____ (date)

Pick a safe outside place to meet after escaping from a fire.

Meeting place: _____

Practice a low-crawl escape from your bedroom. Try it with your eyes closed to see how well you could do in thick smoke.

Smoke escape drill conducted: _____ (date)

Conduct a home fire drill at least twice a year.

Home fire drill conducted: _____ (date)



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