

Smoke Detectors

Most home fire deaths happen in the middle of the night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. A smoke detector can save your life by waking you up and giving you time to escape. When you purchase a smoke detector, look for one that is approved by an independent testing facility.

The best places for your smoke alarms include:

- On every level of your home, including the basement
- Outside of every bedroom
- On the ceiling or wall 6 to 12 inches below the ceiling

Other tips include:

- Keep smoke alarms away from air vents.
- Check the alarm batteries once a month by pressing the test button with your finger.
- Replace batteries once a year.
- Keep the grillwork on the outside clean and vacuum the outside to keep the detector dust-free.

It is also important to teach children about what to do in the case of a fire and formulate a family meeting place outside if there is a fire. Contact your local ERIE Agent for more information about fire safety and fire insurance on your homeowner's policy.

This information is provided as a public service by Erie Insurance Group and your local ERIE Agent. The information is intended to help minimize risks, but cannot be relied upon to eliminate all hazardous exposures.
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