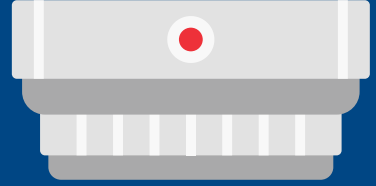


Smoke Alarms: Make them work for you!™

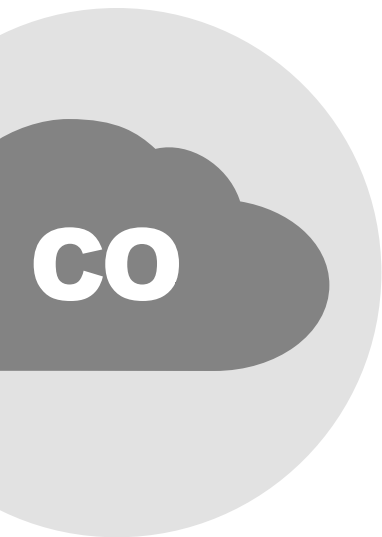


Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Smoke alarms are one of the most important safety features of your home. Properly installed, working smoke alarms will give you the early warning you need to safely escape from a fire.

Smoke alarms provide early warning of fire, giving you time to escape. Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarms protect you from carbon monoxide poisoning, which can happen from malfunctioning fuel-burning appliances like heaters, stoves, or fireplaces.

Smoke alarms detect smoke from a fire and make a loud high-pitched beeping sound, **Beep-Beep-Beep** to warn you. CO alarms alert you to the presence of CO gas, which is dangerous, invisible, and odorless. Both alarms are essential for home safety.



Proper Placement of Alarms

Smoke alarms should be installed inside each bedroom, outside sleeping areas, and on every level of the home, including the basement. CO alarms should be placed outside bedrooms and on every level of the home.

For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, install smoke alarms with flashing lights or bed shakers near sleeping areas, and ensure that CO alarms also have visual or vibrating alerts and are properly placed.

When Alarms Sound

If a smoke alarm sounds, you should stay calm. Check for signs of fire if it is safe to do so while evacuating, but do not delay your escape to investigate, evacuate the building quickly and safely without wasting time on belongings. When evacuating, ensure that everyone in the household is aware of the alarm and encourage them to exit quickly and safely.

Call 911 once you are outside to report the situation, do not re-enter the building until firefighters say it is safe to do so. Follow your pre-planned escape route and meet at a designated safe spot outside.



Alarm Maintenance

Test all alarms every month by pressing the test button. Gently vacuum your smoke alarm monthly to prevent dirt from blocking the sensor. Change the batteries at least once a year or when the alarm chirps to signal low power. Replace smoke alarms every 10 years and CO alarms every 5-7 years, depending on the manufacturer's instructions.

Learn the different alarm sounds and how to react

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Key Safety Tips

- **Never** ignore alarms.
- Plan and practice a **fire escape plan** with your family, including those who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Ensure that your home has **working smoke and CO alarms**, including special alarms for those with hearing impairments.
- Properly working smoke and CO alarms can save lives. **Keep them maintained to stay safe.**



LINKS:

[SMOKE ALARMS](#) | [WIRED](#) | [BATTERY](#) | [HEARING IMPAIRED](#) | [COOKING](#) | [HALIFAX](#)

[NFPA FIRE PREVENTION WEEK \(FPW\)](#)

[SMOKE ALARM TYPES](#) | [NFPA](#)

[DAN DOOFUS REALIZES SMOKE ALARMS ARE AN ALARMING TREND](#)

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