



# Smoke Alarms in the Home

*Most home fire fatalities occur at night when you and your family are sleeping. The smell of smoke will not wake you up, but rather, the toxins in the smoke will render you into a deeper state of unconsciousness. Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no working smoke alarms. Along with sleeping with bedroom doors closed, working smoke alarms give you the best chances to survive a residential home fire.*

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- A smoke alarm should be mounted on the ceiling or high on a wall.
- Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which can include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today's smoke alarms are more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet help to mitigate false alarms.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Test smoke alarms once a month. Press and hold the test button for a few seconds to be sure the alarm is working.
- If your smoke alarms are 10 years or older, they should be replaced.

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