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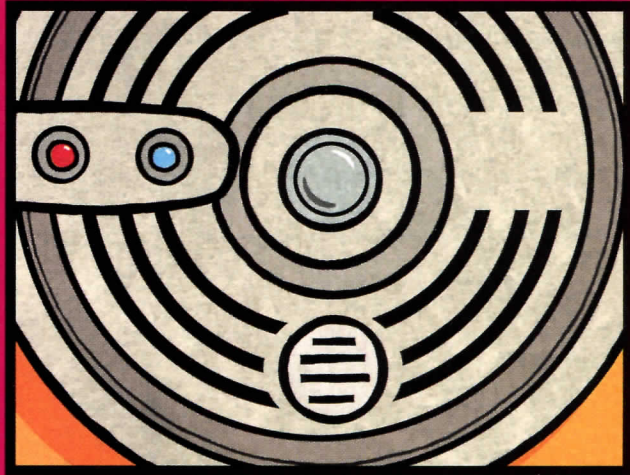
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Item #BR4Y

Home Smoke Alarms



For Videos, Fact Sheets,
and more... go to
nfpa.org/homesmokealarms

Alarms save lives

Smoke alarms save lives. Roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths happen in homes with either no smoke alarms or no smoke alarms that work. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast — smoke alarms give you time to get out.

Choosing your alarms

- Make sure the smoke alarm has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Alarms that run on household current (even if they include battery backup) require installation by a qualified electrician.
- Alarms that run on just batteries can be installed by anyone.
- People with mild to severe hearing loss can add a device to work with the smoke alarm. The device will make a mixed low-pitched sound.
- Smoke alarms that also use strobe lights are available for people who are deaf. Vibration equipment (to shake the bed and wake the person) should be added to these alarms.

NFPA Fast Fact:

Roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths result from fires in homes with either no smoke alarms or alarms that were not working.

Nuisance alarms

- Do not install any smoke alarm closer than 10 feet to a cooking appliance. Use a photoelectric alarm or ionization alarm with a hush button if the alarm is to be placed within 20 feet of a cooking appliance.
- If cooking fumes set off nuisance alarms, either replace the alarm with an alarm that has a “**hush**” button, which will temporarily reduce the alarm’s sensitivity for a short period of time, or install a photoelectric type.
- An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires, and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. Both types of detection alarms or a combination alarm (photoelectric and ionization) should be installed in the home.

Maintaining your alarms

- Always save and follow the alarm manufacturer’s instructions for testing and maintenance.
- Test alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Smoke alarms with non-replaceable batteries are designed to work for 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire alarm.
- For smoke alarms with any other type of battery, replace batteries at least once a year. If the alarm “chirps,” replace the battery right away.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old, or sooner if they do not respond properly when tested.

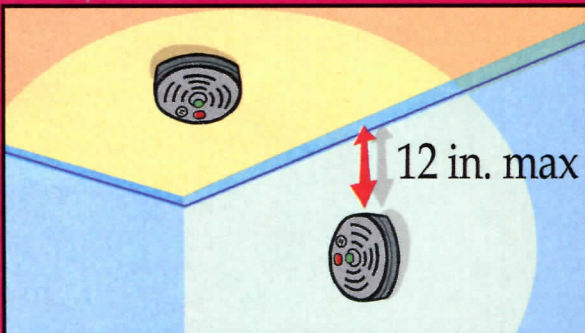
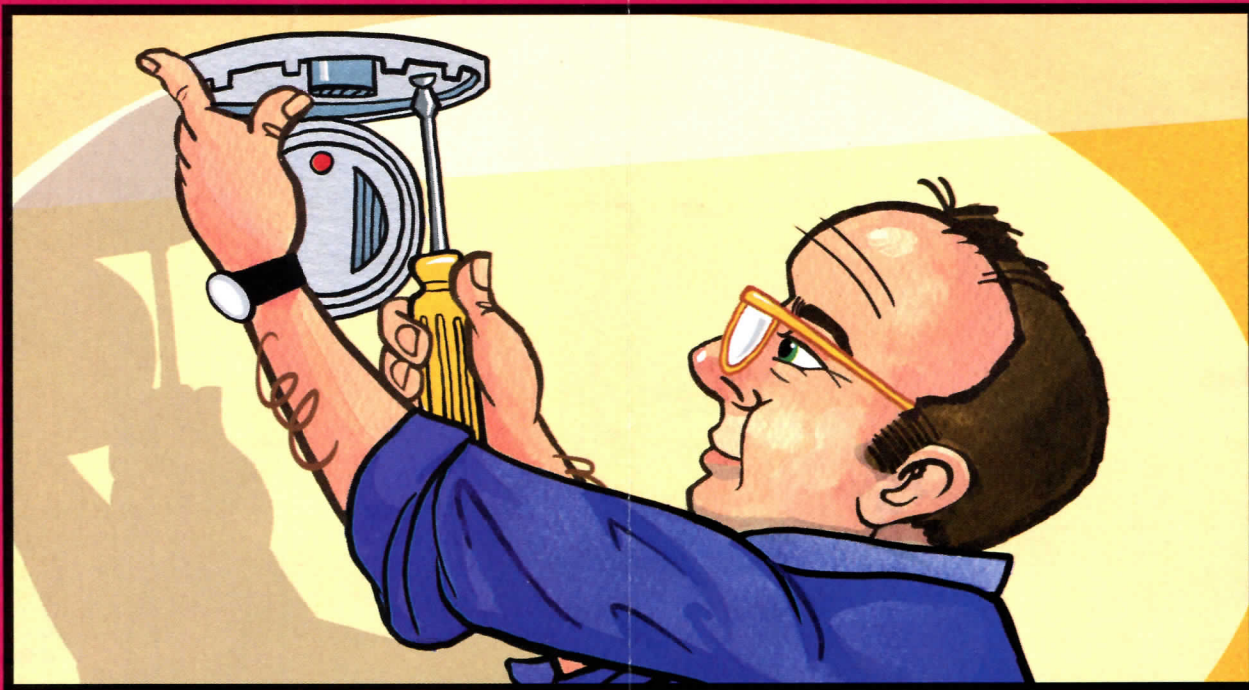
NFPA Fast Fact:

Roughly one of every 5 smoke alarm failures is due to dead batteries.



**for more...
www.nfpa.org/homesmokealarms**





Alarm Installation and Placement

Some states and jurisdictions allow smoke alarms to be installed on ceilings only.

Installing your alarms

- Make sure everyone in the home recognizes the sound of a smoke alarm and knows how to respond.
- Some people, especially children and older adults, may need help to wake up. Make sure someone will wake them if the smoke alarm sounds.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home (including the basement).
- For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's installation instructions.

for more...
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