

# Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms save lives, but only if they are properly installed and functioning. Most fire fatalities happen in homes **without** working smoke alarms.

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## SMOKE ALARM FACTS

### Install

The Seattle Fire Department recommends that you install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, including the basement. Even better is one in every bedroom. Smoke alarms are designed to wake you up if a fire starts while you are sleeping. Be sure your smoke alarms are near bedrooms and other sleeping areas in your home.

### Test

When was the last time you heard your smoke alarm? Battery-operated alarms should be tested once a month to make certain they are working.

### Change

Replace the batteries in your smoke alarm once a year. The Seattle Fire Department recommends you do this when we change our clocks to Daylight Savings Time each fall. Install a new battery immediately if an alarm “chirps” to indicate a low battery.

A ten-year lithium battery smoke alarm does not need to have its battery changed. Replace smoke alarms that use extended-life, lithium batteries when the alarm “chirps” or fails to respond to periodic testing. The batteries in these units cannot be replaced.



### False Alarms

Use the hush button to silence a false alarm. Never disconnect or remove the battery. If your smoke alarm does not have a hush button use a magazine or kitchen towel to wave fresh air into the detection unit

### Replace

Replace your smoke alarm every ten years. After ten years, your smoke detector will have been working consecutively for 87,000 hours. No other appliance in your home works this long. If you do not know how old your smoke alarm is, or if it is ten years or older, replace it as soon as possible.

When mounting in a hallway, the "A" line should be parallel with the hallway.



FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5

When wall mounting, the "A" line should be horizontal and the "UP FOR WALL MOUNTING" arrow must be pointing up.



FIGURE 6

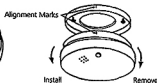


FIGURE 7

**CAUTION!** IF THE BATTERY REMINDER FINGER IS NOT HELD DOWN IN THE BATTERY COMPARTMENT BY THE BATTERY, THE BATTERY DOOR WILL NOT CLOSE AND THE UNIT WILL NOT ATTACH TO THE MOUNTING BRACKET.

- Alignment marks are provided on the edge of the trim plate and the alarm. After installing the mounting plate, place the alarm on the mounting plate with the alignment marks lined up. Twist the alarm in the direction indicated by the "ON" arrow on the alarm cover (see Figure 7) until it locks in place.
- After installation, test your alarm by depressing and holding down the test button for at least 5 seconds. This should sound the alarm.

## 4. OPERATION AND TESTING

**OPERATION:** The smoke alarm is operating once a fresh battery is installed and testing is complete. When products of combustion are sensed, the unit sounds a loud 85db pulsating alarm until the air is cleared.

**FLASHING LED LIGHT:** This smoke alarm is equipped with a flashing red indicator light. The light is located under the test button and will flash every 30 - 40 seconds to indicate that the smoke alarm is receiving power.

**TESTING:** Test by pushing the test button on the cover and holding it down for a minimum of 5 seconds. This will sound the alarm if the electronic circuitry, horn, and battery are working. If no alarm sounds, the unit has defective batteries or other failure. **DO NOT** use an open flame to test your alarm, you could damage the alarm or ignite combustible materials and start a structure fire.

**TEST THE ALARM WEEKLY TO ENSURE PROPER OPERATION.** Erratic or low sound coming from your alarm may indicate a defective alarm, and it should be returned for service (see Section 12).

**NOTE: WEEKLY TESTING IS REQUIRED.**

## 5. NUISANCE ALARMS

Smoke alarms are designed to minimize nuisance alarms. Cigarette smoke will not normally set off the alarm, unless the smoke is blown directly into the alarm. Combustion particles from cooking may set off the alarm if the alarm is located close to the cooking area. Large quantities of combustible particles are generated from spills or when broiling. Using the fan on a range hood which vents to the outside (non-recirculating type) will also help remove these combustible products from the kitchen.

If the alarm does sound, check for fires first. If a fire is discovered, get out and call the fire department. If no fire is present, check to see if one of the reasons listed in Section 2 may have caused the alarm.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

### BATTERY REPLACEMENT

To replace the battery, remove the alarm from the mounting plate by rotating the alarm in the direction of the "OFF" arrow on the cover (see Figure 7).

The Model 0914 Smoke Alarm is powered by a 9V carbon zinc battery (alkaline and lithium batteries may also be used). A fresh battery should last for one year under normal operating conditions. This alarm has a low battery monitor circuit which will cause the alarm to "chirp" approximately every 30 - 40 seconds for a minimum of seven (7) days when the battery gets low. Replace the battery when this condition occurs.

**USE ONLY THE FOLLOWING 9 VOLT BATTERIES FOR SMOKE ALARM REPLACEMENT.**

|                   |                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Carbon Zinc Type: | EVEREADY 216 OR 1222;<br>GOLD PEAK 1604P OR 16Q4S                                                                     |
| Alkaline Type:    | ENERGIZER 522; DURACELL MN1604,<br>MX1604, GOLD PEAK 1604A<br>PANASONIC 6AM6, 6AM-6, 6AM-6PL, 6AM6X,<br>and 6LR61(GA) |
| Lithium Type:     | ULTRALIFE U9VL-J                                                                                                      |

**NOTE: WEEKLY TESTING IS REQUIRED.**

**WARNING!! USE ONLY THE BATTERIES SPECIFIED. USE OF DIFFERENT BATTERIES MAY HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE SMOKE ALARM.**

### CLEANING YOUR ALARM

#### YOUR ALARM SHOULD BE CLEANED AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR

To clean your alarm, remove it from the mounting bracket as outlined in the beginning of this section. You can clean the interior of your alarm (sensing chamber) by using compressed air or a vacuum cleaner hose and blowing or vacuuming through the openings around the perimeter of the alarm. The outside of the alarm can be wiped with a damp cloth. After cleaning, reinstall your alarm and test your alarm by using the test button. If cleaning does not restore the alarm to normal operation the alarm should be replaced.

Source: Kidde