

Guidelines For Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements

Massachusetts - Residential Dwelling Units

Year Built or Substantially Modified	Before 1975	1975 - 8/27/1997	8/28/1997 - 2008	9/1/2008 -2/2011	3/2011 - 2018	2018 - Present
All Smoke Alarms Shall Be Ceiling Mounted						
Smoke Alarm Power Supply	Battery or Hardwired	Hardwired, Interconnected	Hardwired, Interconnected w/battery backup			
Type of Smoke Alarm Technology: (Photoelectric or Ionization)						
On the same level, if a required detector is located <u>more than 20'</u> from a kitchen or full bathroom doorway it shall be:	*Photoelectric with a sealed 10 yr non-rechargeable, non serviceable battery. *Working smoke alarms installed prior to 12/1/16 (that met requirements) can continue to be used until they are 10 years old	Photoelectric OR Ionization	Photoelectric OR Ionization	Photoelectric OR <u>Dual Detector*</u>	Photoelectric Only	Photoelectric Only
On the same level, if a required detector is located <u>within 20'</u> of a kitchen or full bathroom doorway it shall be:		Photoelectric OR Ionization	Photoelectric Only	Photoelectric Only	Photoelectric Only	Photoelectric Only
Smoke Alarm Placement						
On every habitable level & including the basement level on the Ceiling : at the base of each stairway leading to an occupied floor above	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke
On Ceiling outside each sleeping Area (in hallway)	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke
Inside every Bedroom	Not Required	Not Required	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke
Finished Attic (Habitable)	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke
Garage (Attached)	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required	Heat Detector	Heat Detector	Heat Detector
Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm Power Supply & Placement						
Battery or Plug-In w/battery backup	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Required	Required	Required
Alarm Placement A CO alarm shall be located on each habitable level, including finished portions of basements and attics. A CO alarm shall be placed in the hallway OUTSIDE each separate sleeping area(where bedrooms are located), no farther than 10' from ANY bedroom door.						
>>>>EFFECTIVE 1/1/2015 SMOKE ALARMS OLDER THAN 10 YRS MUST BE REPLACED WITH NEW ALARMS!!<<<<						
*Dual Technology Smoke Alarms Consist of <u>one SMOKE Alarm with both photoelectric and ionization technology & MUST have Hush Feature</u>						
One Smoke Alarm is needed for each 1,000 square feet of area, per floor. CO Alarms only have a 5, 7, or 10 year life span as per each manufacturer's recommendations						
<u>Combination Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms</u> MUST have a Tone and Voice feature. If battery powered, must have a 10 yr non-rechargeable, non-replaceable battery						
REVISED 4-28-2018						
This Document is a guideline. Please call your local Fire Prevention Office if you still have questions.						