



What should I do if my smoke alarm sounds?

If your smoke alarm sounds and you see smoke, **GET OUT AND STAY OUT!** Go to your outside meeting place and call 9-1-1.

Before you open a door, feel the doorknob and then the door. If either is hot, or you see smoke coming in from around the door, leave it closed and use your second way out.

If you open a door, open it slowly, and be ready to shut it if heavy smoke or fire is present.

If there is smoke blocking your way out, use a second way outside.

If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to get outside.

If you cannot get outside, close the door and cover vents and the cracks around the door to keep smoke out. Call 9-1-1, and tell them which room you are in. Signal for help at a window.

If pets are trapped inside your home, tell firefighters right away.

NEVER, EVER GO BACK INSIDE A BURNING BUILDING!



Practice your escape plan so everyone knows what to do.

SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR RENTERS

Oregon law requires landlords to provide working smoke alarms in rental homes. If you rent and do not have working smoke alarms, contact your landlord or property manager.

Tenants are responsible for testing the alarms at least every six months and replacing the batteries if needed. If a smoke alarm is not working properly, it is your responsibility to tell your landlord so they can fix or replace it.

Never disconnect or remove alarm batteries, except to change them. Tenants should never remove or tamper with an alarm in a rental property.



OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL

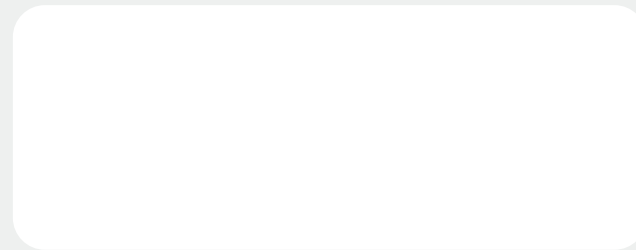
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CONTENT COURTESY OF THE OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM



KNOW YOUR SMOKE ALARM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Safety information from the Oregon State Fire Marshal and your local fire agency





Why should I have smoke alarms in my home?

Smoke is poisonous and it moves fast! Smoke rises to the ceiling and quickly fills a room, making it very dark and almost impossible to breathe. Working smoke alarms monitor the air in your home 24 hours a day!

During a house fire, you may only have two minutes to escape. Having smoke alarms installed in your home provides early warning and gives your family extra time to get out.

YOU ARE 55% MORE LIKELY TO SURVIVE A HOME FIRE IF YOU HAVE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS IN YOUR HOME.



Are there different types of smoke alarms?

Yes - Ionization smoke alarms are more responsive to flaming types of fires, and **photoelectric** smoke alarms are more responsive to smoldering types of fires. There are also alarms that use both ionization and photoelectric technology.

New multi-criteria smoke alarms can detect smoke from cooking and will not sound a nuisance alarm.



What can I do about nuisance alarms?

Many smoke alarms come with a **hush feature** that will silence nuisance alarms for up to 15 minutes while you clear the room of smoke.



How do I keep my smoke alarms working?

- **Follow** the package instructions for cleaning your alarms.
- **Use** the type of battery recommended by the manufacturer.
- **Check the date** - Smoke alarms with a non-replaceable (long-life) battery are designed to be effective for up to 10 years.
- **Replace** smoke alarm batteries of any other type at least once a year.
- **Test** your alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- **Replace ALL** smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

MAKE SURE EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT TO DO WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDS.



What if someone can't hear a smoke alarm?

Young children and people who are deaf or hard of hearing may not hear a standard smoke alarm and may need help to wake up and get out.

Multi-sensory alarms and assistive devices, voice recordable smoke alarms, low-frequency alarms, and alarms with higher decibel levels are all options to warn people who cannot hear a standard smoke alarm.



Where should I install smoke alarms?

Install them on every level of your home, including the basement. Make sure they are located outside of bedrooms, within 21 feet of each bedroom door, and inside of bedrooms, if required when the home was built.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.

SMOKE ALARMS ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR FAMILY'S FIRE SAFETY PLAN.



How can I plan to escape safely?

- **Make a home escape plan.** Draw a map of each level of your home. Go into each room and find two ways out.
- **Be mindful of children, older adults, and people with disabilities** who may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure your plan includes someone to help.
- **Have an outside meeting place.** This should be something permanent, like a tree, light pole, or mailbox. Make sure it is in front of your home, at a safe distance, where firefighters can find you quickly.
- **Make sure everyone in your home knows how to call 9-1-1** from a mobile phone or a trusted neighbor's phone.
- **Practice your plan at least twice a year with everyone in your household.** Make sure everyone knows the sound of the smoke alarm and what to do when they hear it.