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Smoke Alarms

When interior alterations, repairs or additions require a permit, or when sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the individual dwelling unit shall be provided with smoke alarms as required for new dwellings.

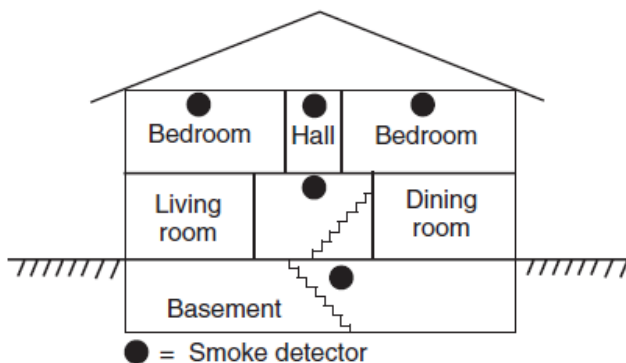
Exceptions:

1. Smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required to be interconnected and hardwired where the alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure.
2. Work on the exterior which does not require entry into the interior of the dwelling for inspection; such as roofing, siding, decks and detached buildings.

Installation in existing homes

Smoke alarms should not be located within kitchens, garages or in other spaces where temperatures can fall below 32° F or exceed 100° F. Refer to manufacture installation requirements.

Single-family smoke alarm placement



Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

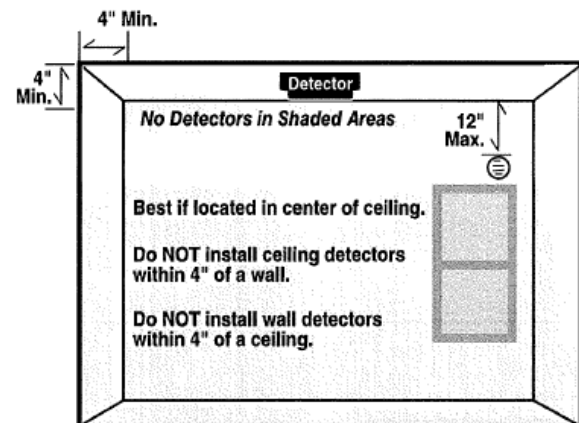
Smoke alarms should not be located within three feet of supply registers for a forced air heating or cooling system and doors to a kitchen or bathroom with a tub or shower because these conditions cause excessive, erratic and unreliable operations.

Smoke alarms in rooms with ceiling slopes greater than 1-foot rise per 8 feet horizontal shall be located on the high side of the room

A smoke alarm installed in a stairwell should be located to ensure that smoke rising in the stairwell cannot be prevented from reaching the alarm by an intervening door or obstruction.

If there are no bedrooms in the basement, the recommended location of the alarm is then in close proximity to the stairway leading to the floor above.

Smoke alarm placement in sleeping room





Smoke alarms should not be located within 36 inches horizontally of ceiling fan blades.

Life expectancy of smoke alarms is approximately 10 years. When replacing a hardwired smoke alarm the replacement must also be hardwired.

Smoke alarms must be adequately secured.

In all cases install smoke alarms in strict adherence with written installation instructions.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

The 2006 Minnesota State Legislature enacted legislation requiring carbon monoxide alarms in all single family homes and multifamily apartment units. These requirements will be phased in as follows.

Effective Dates:

- Effective January 1, 2007, all newly constructed single family homes and multifamily dwelling units for which building permits were issued on or after January 1, 2001, shall be provided with an approved carbon monoxide alarm.
- Effective August 1, 2008, all existing single family homes shall be equipped with an approved carbon monoxide alarm.
- Effective August 1, 2009, all existing multifamily or apartment units shall be provided with an approved carbon monoxide alarm.

General location requirements:

- Within ten (10) feet of each room lawfully used for sleeping purposes. Verify installation height with manufacturer's installation directions.

Listing or Certification of Alarms:

- All CO alarms shall be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory to conform to the latest UL 2034 Standards

Owner Responsibilities in Multifamily Dwellings:

- It shall be the owner's responsibility of a multifamily dwelling to (1) Provide and install one approved and operational CO alarm within ten feet of each room lawfully used for sleeping; and (2) Replace any required CO alarm that has been stolen, removed, found missing, or rendered inoperable during a prior occupancy.

Power:

- CO alarms must be either hardwired into the electrical wiring, directly plugged into an electrical outlet without a switch, or battery powered.

Combo Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms are allowed.