



ROCKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts Smoke/CO Alarm Requirements Typical one- and two-family residences built before January 1, 1975:

Smoke alarms are required as follows:

- On every habitable level of the residence.
- In the basement.
- On the ceiling at the base of each stairway leading to a floor above including the basement (but not within stairways).
- On the ceiling outside each separate sleeping area.
- Must be photoelectric. (Can be in combination with ionization or carbon monoxide.)
- May be battery-powered, hardwired, or a combination of both.
- Smoke alarms cannot be more than 10 years old or exceed the manufacturer's recommended life, whichever comes first.
- In two-family dwellings, smoke alarms are required in common areas shared by residents.

New or Replacement alarms:

- Must be photoelectric. (Can be in combination with ionization or carbon monoxide.)
- Must contain a hush feature to silence nuisance alarms.
- Battery-powered alarms must have 10-year, sealed, non-rechargeable, non-replaceable batteries.

Carbon monoxide alarms are required as follows:

- On every level of the residence, including habitable portions of basements and attics and must be located within 10 feet of each bedroom door.
- Combination alarms (photoelectric smoke and carbon monoxide alarm) may be used.
- Combination alarms must have both a tone and simulated voice alarm to distinguish the type of emergency.
- May be either: battery powered, plug-in with battery backup, hardwired with battery backup, or system type.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement.