

# SMOKE ALARM

## Installation Information

The following information was taken from the 1997 Uniform Building Code: This is the same requirement as for the new 2008 code EXCEPT, the term Smoke "Detector" has been replaced with Smoke "ALARM".

**310.9.1.1 - General.** Dwelling units, congregate residences and hotel or lodging house guest rooms that are used for sleeping purposes shall be provided with smoke detectors. Detectors shall be installed in accordance with the approved manufacturer's instructions.

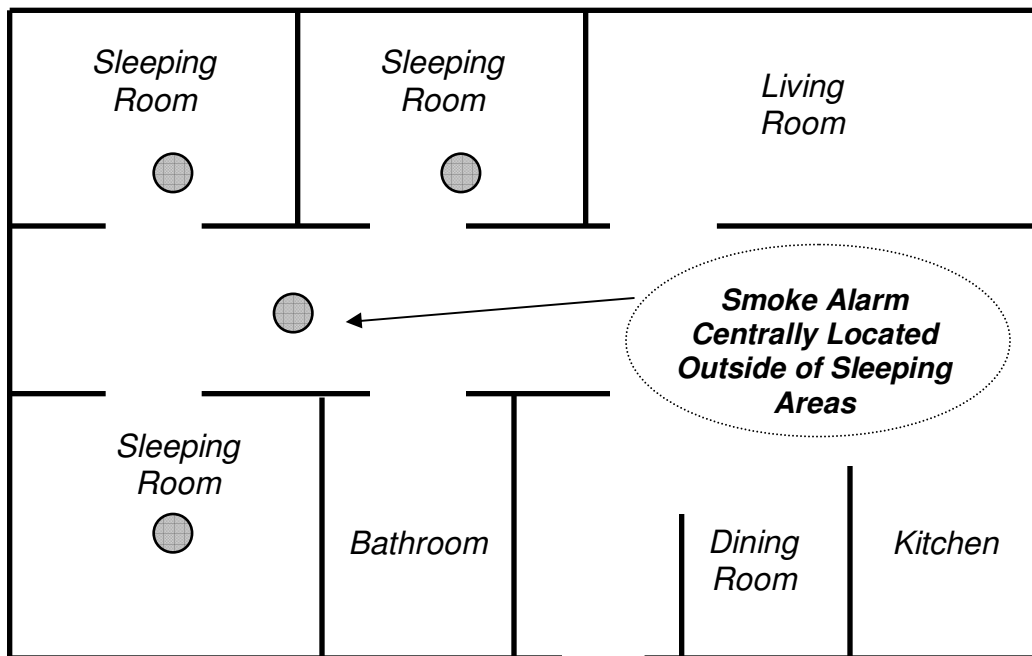
**310.9.1.2 - Additions alterations or repairs to Group R Occupancies.** When the valuation of an addition, alteration or repair to a Group R Occupancy exceeds \$1000 and a permit is required, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing Group R Occupancies, smoke detectors shall be installed in accordance with Sections 310.9.1.3, 310.9.1.4 and 310.9.1.5 of this section.

**EXCEPTION:** Repairs to the exterior surfaces of a group R Occupancy are exempt from the requirements of this section.

**310.9.1.3 - Power Source.** In new construction, required smoke detectors shall receive their primary power from the building wiring when such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup. The detector shall emit a signal when the batteries are low. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for over-current protection. **Smoke detectors may be solely battery operated when installed in existing buildings; or in buildings without commercial power; or in buildings which undergo alterations, repairs or additions regulated by Section 310.9.1.2.**

**310.9.1.4 - Location within dwelling units.** In dwelling units, a detector shall be installed in each sleeping room and at a point centrally located in the corridor or area giving access to each separate sleeping area. When the dwelling unit has more than one story and in dwellings with basements, a detector shall be installed on each story and in the basement. In dwelling units where a story or basement is split into two or more levels, the smoke detector shall be installed on the upper level, except that when the lower level contains a sleeping area, a detector shall be installed on each level. When sleeping rooms are on the upper level, the detector shall be placed at the ceiling of the upper level in close proximity to the stairway. In dwelling units where the ceiling height of a room open to the hallway serving the bedrooms exceeds that of the hallway by 24 inches (610 mm) or more, smoke detectors shall be installed in the hallway and in the adjacent room. Detectors shall sound an alarm audible in all sleeping areas of the dwelling unit in which they are located.

\*\*Further information regarding Smoke Detector safety and installation can be found in the Uniform Building Code and/or from your local building department. A standard home inspection is not a CODE inspection.



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