

Guidelines For Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements

Massachusetts - One and Two Family Dwellings

One detector can cover 1,200 square feet.

ALL DETECTORS MUST BE MOUNTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER RECOMMENDATIONS.

	Year Built or Substantially Modified				
	Before 1975	1975 - 8/27/97	8/27/97 - 2007	1/08 – 2/11	2/11 - Present
Smoke detector powered by:					
Battery Operated	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Hardwired, interconnected	Allowed	Required	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup	Recommended	Recommended	Required	Required	Required

Type of smoke detector:					
Outside 20 ft. of kitchen or full bathroom	Photoelectric OR Dual Detector*	Photoelectric OR Ionization	Photoelectric OR Ionization	Photoelectric OR Dual Detector*	Photoelectric
Within 20 ft. of kitchen or full bathroom	Photoelectric	Photoelectric OR Ionization	Photoelectric	Photoelectric	Photoelectric

CO detector powered by:	MUST BE IN THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE SLEEPING AREA, WITHIN 10 FEET OF EACH BEDROOM DOOR				
Battery or Plug-In w/battery backup	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Required	Required

Locations required:					
Finished or Habitable Basement	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO
Every Habitable Level	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO
Base of Stairs	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke
Outside each Sleeping Area (hallway)	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO
Inside every Bedroom	Not Required	Not Required	Smoke	Smoke	Smoke
Finished Attic (Habitable)	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO	Smoke/CO
Garage (Attached)	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required	Heat Detector	Heat Detector

*** A dual detector consists of one detector with both photoelectric and ionization technology**

● Low Voltage fire warning systems are exempt from the dual detector technology requirement

● Combination Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms MUST have a Voice Feature

REV. 2017

This is a guide only. Please call Fire Prevention if you still have questions: 781-961-0991/0992