

MAINTAINING SMOKE ALARMS

- 01** Test your smoke alarm every month, whether it's battery powered or hardwired
- 02** Replace 9-volt battery at least twice per year or if the alarm "chirps"
- 03** Replace the entire unit every 8 to 10 years or according to the manufacturer's instructions



WHY REPLACE YOUR ALARM?

Not only does replacing your alarms ensure that you have ones that work, it also allows you to upgrade their quality. Researchers are developing new ways to make smoke alarms better. Each new generation of smoke alarms cuts down on false alarms while signaling real fires more quickly.



WITH FIRE, TIME IS EVERYTHING.

INSTALLING SMOKE ALARMS

- 01** Install smoke alarms on every level of your house (including basements), outside sleeping areas, and inside each bedroom.
- 02** Place smoke alarms on ceilings or high on walls. Smoke alarms placed on walls should be no more than 12 inches from the ceiling.



HOW DO SMOKE ALARMS WORK?

Smoke alarms detect fires by sensing small particles in the air using a couple of different kinds of technologies. Once they detect those particles above a certain level, they signal the alarm to sound so that you and your family can get to safety and call 911.



DON'T LET FALSE ALARMS THREATEN YOUR FAMILY

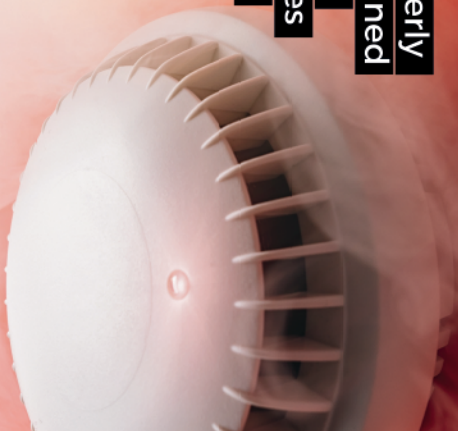
Some activities such as cooking or even turning on a toaster can activate the alarm. Nobody enjoys the sound of a smoke alarm, but do not disable the alarm. Remember that the alarm is there to protect you and those you love.



SAFETY FIRST

Having working, properly installed, and maintained smoke alarms in your home greatly increases the chances that you and your family will survive a home fire.

It could mean the difference between life and death.



BE FIRE READY EVERY DAY

- Make sure everyone knows the sound of the smoke alarm
- Have a fire escape plan with two ways out of every room
- Have a safe meeting place outside that is safely away from your home
- Make sure every knows how to call help in an emergency

