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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing First Alert® for your Smoke Alarm needs. You have purchased a state of the art Smoke Alarm designed to provide you with an early warning of a fire. Please take the time to read this manual and make this Smoke Alarm an integral part of your family's safety plan.

Key Features of the 7010 and 7010B Smoke Alarm:

- Photoelectric Smoke Sensing Technology: Generally more sensitive at detecting large particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by smoldering fires.
- Optipath 360 Technology®: Patented technology provides 360° of direct access to the smoke sensor.
- Single Button Test/Silence: One touch button combines both features.
- Perfect Mount: Mounting bracket keeps alarm secure over a wide rotation range to allow for perfect alignment.
- Battery back-up (Model 7010B only): Keeps alarm functioning during a power interruption provided battery is fresh and installed properly.

All First Alert® and BRK® Smoke Alarms conform to regulatory requirements, including UL217 and are designed to detect particles of combustion. Smoke particles of varying number and size are produced in all fires.

Fire Safety Tips

Follow safety rules and prevent hazardous situations: 1) Use smoking materials properly. Never smoke in bed. 2) Keep matches or lighters away from children; 3) Store flammable materials in proper containers; 4) Keep electrical appliances in good condition and don’t overload electrical circuits; 5) Keep stoves, barbecue grills, fireplaces and chimneys grease- and debris-free; 6) Never leave anything cooking on the stove unattended; 7) Keep portable heaters and open flames, like candles, away from flammable materials; 8) Don’t let rubbish accumulate.

Keep alarms clean, and test them weekly. Replace alarms immediately if they are not working properly. Smoke Alarms that do not work cannot alert you to a fire. Keep at least one working fire extinguisher on every floor, and an additional one in the kitchen. Have fire escape ladders or other reliable means of escape from an upper floor in case stairs are blocked.

BEFORE YOU INSTALL THIS SMOKE ALARM

IMPORTANT! Read “Recommended Locations for Smoke Alarms” and “Locations to Avoid for Smoke Alarms” before beginning. This unit monitors the air, and when smoke reaches its sensing chamber, it alarms. It can give you more time to escape before fire spreads. This unit can ONLY give an early warning of developing fires if it is installed, maintained and located where smoke can reach it, and where all residents can hear it, as described in this manual. This unit will not sense gas, heat, or flame. It cannot prevent or extinguish fires.

Understand The Different Type of Smoke Alarms

Battery powered or electrical? Different Smoke Alarms provide different types of protection. See “About Smoke Alarms” for details.

Know Where To Install Your Smoke Alarms

Fire Safety Professionals recommend at least one Smoke Alarm on every level of your home, in every bedroom, and in every bedroom hallway or separate sleeping area. See “Recommended Locations For Smoke Alarms” and “Locations To Avoid For Smoke Alarms” for details.

Know What Smoke Alarms Can and Can’t Do

A Smoke Alarm can help alert you to fire, giving you precious time to escape. It can only sound an alarm if smoke reaches the sensor. See “Limitations of Smoke Alarms” for details.

Check Your Local Building Codes

This Smoke Alarm is designed to be used in a typical single-family home. It alone will not meet requirements for boarding houses, apartment buildings, hotels or motels. See “Special Compliance Considerations” for details.
The Mounting Bracket:
To remove the mounting bracket from the Smoke Alarm base, hold the Smoke Alarm base firmly and twist the mounting bracket counterclockwise. The mounting bracket installs onto the junction box. It has a variety of screw slots to fit most boxes.

The Power Connector:
The power connector plugs into a power input block on the Smoke Alarm. It supplies the unit with AC power.
- The black wire is “hot.”
- The white wire is neutral.
- The orange wire is used for interconnect.

If you need to remove the power connector, turn POWER OFF first. Insert a flat screwdriver blade between the power connector and the security tab inside the power input block. Gently pry back the tab and pull the connector free.

The Parts of This Smoke Alarm:
1. Mounting Bracket
2. Mounting Slots
3. Locking Pins (break out of bracket)
4. Hot (Black) AC Wire
5. Neutral (White) AC Wire
6. Interconnect (Orange) Wire
7. Quick-Connect Power Connector
8. Turn this way to remove from bracket
9. Turn this way to attach to bracket
10. Slide-Out Battery Drawer

HOW TO INSTALL THIS SMOKE ALARM
This Smoke Alarm is designed to be mounted on any standard wiring junction box up to a 4-inch (10 cm) size, on either the ceiling or wall (if allowed by local codes). Read “Recommended Locations For Smoke Alarms” and “Locations to Avoid For Smoke Alarms” before you begin installation.

Tools you will need: • Needle-nose pliers or utility knife • Standard Flathead screwdriver.

WARNING!
Make sure the Alarm is not receiving excessively noisy power. Examples of noisy power could be major appliances on the same circuit, power from a generator or solar power, light dimmer on the same circuit or mounted near fluorescent lighting. Excessively noisy power may cause damage to your Alarm.

The Parts of This Unit:
1. Mounting Bracket
2. Mounting Slots
3. Locking Pins (break out of bracket)
4. Hot (Black) AC Wire
5. Neutral (White) AC Wire
6. Interconnect (Orange) Wire
7. Quick-Connect Power Connector
8. Turn this way to remove from bracket
9. Turn this way to attach to bracket
10. Slide-Out Battery Drawer
FOLLOW THESE INSTALLATION STEPS

The basic installation of this Smoke Alarm is similar whether you want to install one Smoke Alarm, or interconnect more than one Smoke Alarm. If you are interconnecting more than one Smoke Alarm, you MUST read “Special Requirements For Interconnected Smoke Alarms” below before you begin installation.

DANGER! ELECTRICAL SHOCK HAZARD. Turn off power to the area where you will install this unit at the circuit breaker or fuse box before beginning installation. Failure to turn off the power before installation may result in serious electrical shock, injury or death.

1. Remove the mounting bracket from the base, and attach it to the junction box.
   - Model 7010B Only: Activate the battery back-up by removing the “Pull to Activate Battery Back-Up” tab. Or, install battery back-up. Battery back-up cannot work until you install the battery in the correct position (Match “+” to “+” and “-” to “-”).
   - Push and hold test button until the alarm sounds:
     - 3 beeps, pause, 3 beeps, pause.
2. Using wire nuts, connect the power connector to the household wiring.
   - INTERCONNECTED UNITS ONLY:
     - Strip off about 1/2” (12 mm) of the plastic coating on the orange wire on the power connector.
     - Connect the orange wire on the power connector to the interconnect wire.
     - Tuck the orange wire inside the junction box. It is used for interconnect only.
3. Plug the power connector into the back of the Smoke Alarm.
4. Position the base of the Smoke Alarm on the mounting bracket and turn. The Alarm can be positioned over the bracket every 90°. Turn the Smoke Alarm clockwise (right) until the unit is in place.
5. Check all connections.

WARNING! Improper wiring of the power connector or the wiring leading to the power connector will cause damage to the Alarm and may lead to a non-functioning Alarm.

STAND-ALONE ALARM ONLY:
- If you are only installing one Smoke Alarm, restore power to the junction box.
INTERCONNECTED UNITS ONLY:
- If you are interconnecting multiple Smoke Alarms, repeat steps 1-5 for each Smoke Alarm in the series. When you are finished, restore power to the junction box.

DANGER! ELECTRICAL SHOCK HAZARD. Do not restore power until all Smoke Alarms are completely installed. Restoring power before installation is complete may result in serious electrical shock, injury or death.

6. Make sure the Smoke Alarm is receiving AC power. Under normal operation, the Green power indicator light will shine continuously.
7. If the Green power indicator light does not light, TURN OFF POWER TO THE JUNCTION BOX and recheck all connections. If all connections are correct and the Green power indicator still does not light when you restore the power, the unit should be replaced immediately.
8. Test each Smoke Alarm. Press and hold the Test/Silence button until the unit alarms. When testing a series of interconnected units you must test each unit individually. Make sure all units alarm when each one is tested.

DANGER! If any unit in the series does not alarm, TURN OFF POWER and recheck connections. If it does not alarm when you restore power, replace it immediately.

Special Requirements For Interconnected Smoke Alarms

WARNING!
- Failure to meet any of the above requirements could damage the units and cause them to malfunction, removing your protection.
- AC and AC/DC Smoke Alarms can be interconnected. Under AC power, all units will alarm when one senses smoke. When power is interrupted, only the AC/DC units in the series will continue to send and receive signals. AC powered Smoke Alarms will not operate.

Interconnected units can provide earlier warning of fire than stand-alone units, especially if a fire starts in a remote area of the dwelling. If any unit in the series senses smoke, all units will alarm. To determine which Smoke Alarm initiated an alarm, see table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On Initiating Alarms</th>
<th>Red LED flashes rapidly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On All Other Alarms</td>
<td>Red LED is Off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT!
Interconnect units within a single family residence only. Otherwise all households will experience unwanted alarms when you test any unit in the series. Interconnected units will only work if they are wired to compatible units and all requirements are met. This unit is designed to be compatible with: First Alert® Smoke Alarm Models SA4120, SA4121B, SA100S and BRK Electronics® Smoke Alarm Models 100S, 2002RAC, 4120, 4120B, 4120SB, 5919; BRK Electronics® Heat Alarm Models HD6135F, HD6135FB; Smoke/CO Alarm Model SC6120B, Relay Module RM3.

Interconnected units must meet ALL of the following requirements:
- A maximum of 18 compatible units may be interconnected (Maximum 12 Smoke Alarms).
- The same fuse or circuit breaker must power all interconnected units.
- The total length of wire interconnecting the units should be less than 1000 feet (300 meters). This type of wire is commonly available at Hardware and Electrical Supply stores.
- All wiring must conform to all local electrical codes and NFPA 70 (NEC). Refer to NFPA 72, NFPA 101, and/or your local building code for further connection requirements.
OPTIONAL LOCKING FEATURES

The locking features are designed to discourage unauthorized removal of the battery or Alarm. It is not necessary to activate the locks in single-family households where unauthorized battery or Alarm removal is not a concern.

These Smoke Alarms have two separate locking features: one to lock the battery compartment, and the other to lock the Smoke Alarm to the mounting bracket. You can choose to use either feature independently, or use them both.

Tools you will need: • Needle-nose pliers or utility knife • Standard Flathead screwdriver.

Both locking features use locking pins, which are molded into the mounting bracket. Using needle-nose pliers or a utility knife, remove one or both pins from the mounting bracket, depending on how many locking features you want to use.

IMPORTANT!

To permanently remove either lock, insert a flathead screwdriver between the locking pin and the lock, and pry the pin out of the lock.

TO LOCK THE BATTERY COMPARTMENT
(Model 7010B Only)

Do not lock the battery compartment until you have installed the battery and tested the battery back-up.

1. Push and hold Test/Silence button until the alarm sounds:
   3 beeps, pause, 3 beeps, pause.

   IMPORTANT!

   If the unit does not alarm during testing, DO NOT lock the battery compartment! Install a new battery and test again. If the Smoke Alarm still does not alarm, replace it immediately.

2. Using needle-nose pliers or a utility knife, detach one locking pin from the mounting bracket.

3. Push the locking pin through the hole near the battery drawer on the back of the Smoke Alarm.

TO UNLOCK THE BATTERY COMPARTMENT
(Model 7010B Only)

IMPORTANT!

Once the Smoke Alarm is installed, you must disconnect it from the AC power before unlocking the battery compartment.

⚠️ DANGER!

ELECTRICAL SHOCK HAZARD. Turn off the power to the area where the Smoke Alarm is installed before removing it from the mounting bracket. Failure to turn off the power first may result in serious electrical shock, injury or death.

⚠️ WARNING!

Always discharge the branch circuit before servicing an AC or AC/DC Smoke Alarm. First, turn off the AC power at the circuit breaker or fuse box. Next, remove the battery from Smoke Alarms with battery back-up. Finally, press and hold the Test/Silence button for 5-10 seconds to discharge the branch circuit.

1. Remove the Smoke Alarm from the mounting bracket. If the unit is locked to the bracket, see the section “To Unlock the Mounting Bracket.”

2. Disconnect the power connector by gently prying it away from the back of the Smoke Alarm.

3. Insert a flathead screwdriver under the head of the locking pin, and gently pry it out of the battery compartment lock. (If you plan to relock the battery compartment, save the locking pin.)

4. To relock the battery compartment, close the battery door and reinsert locking pin in lock.

5. Reconnect the power connector to the back of the Smoke Alarm, reattach the Smoke Alarm to the mounting bracket, and restore the power.

IMPORTANT!

When replacing the battery, always test the Smoke Alarm before relocking the battery compartment.

TO LOCK THE MOUNTING BRACKET

1. Using needle-nose pliers, detach one locking pin from mounting bracket.

2. Insert the locking pin into the lock located opposite from the battery drawer as shown in the diagram.

3. When you attach the Smoke Alarm to the mounting bracket, the locking pin’s head will fit into a notch on the bracket.

TO UNLOCK THE MOUNTING BRACKET

⚠️ DANGER!

ELECTRICAL SHOCK HAZARD. Turn off the power to the area where the Smoke Alarm is installed before removing it from the mounting bracket. Failure to turn off the power first may result in serious electrical shock, injury or death.

⚠️ WARNING!

Always discharge the branch circuit before servicing an AC or AC/DC Smoke Alarm. First, turn off the AC power at the circuit breaker or fuse box. Next, remove the battery from Smoke Alarms with battery back-up. Finally, press and hold the Test/Silence button for 5-10 seconds to discharge the branch circuit.

1. Insert a flathead screwdriver between the mounting bracket pin and the mounting bracket.

2. Pry the Smoke Alarm away from the bracket by turning both the screwdriver and the Smoke Alarm counterclockwise (left) at the same time.
UNDERSTANDING THE INDICATOR LIGHTS AND ALARM HORN PATTERNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AC Power</th>
<th>DC Power Model 7010B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal Operation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constant Green LED</td>
<td>Green LED Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flashing Red LED approx. once/minute</td>
<td>Flashing Red LED approx. once/minute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Audible Alarm</td>
<td>No Audible Alarm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Condition</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constant Green LED</td>
<td>Green LED Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapidly Flashing Red LED</td>
<td>Rapidly Flashing Red LED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audible Alarm</td>
<td>Audible Alarm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alarm Condition* (Initiating Unit)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constant Green LED</td>
<td>Green LED Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapidly Flashing Red LED</td>
<td>Rapidly Flashing Red LED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audible Alarm</td>
<td>Audible Alarm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silence Mode</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red LED flashes once every 10 seconds</td>
<td>Red LED flashes once every 10 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low Battery</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Alarm “chirp” approx. once/minute</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NOTE: When power is applied, unit(s) may alarm momentarily.

When any Smoke Alarm in an interconnected series triggers an alarm, its red LED will flash rapidly. The red LEDs will remain OFF on any remaining alarms in the series. This feature helps responders identify which unit(s) triggered the alarm.

WEEKLY TESTING

**WARNING!**
- NEVER use an open flame of any kind to test this unit. You might accidentally damage or set fire to the unit or to your home. The built-in test switch accurately tests the unit's operation as required by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL).
- If the Alarm ever fails to test properly, replace it immediately. Products under warranty may be returned to the manufacturer for replacement. See "Limited Warranty" at the end of this manual.

**CAUTION!**
DO NOT stand close to the Alarm when the horn is sounding. Exposure at close range may be harmful to your hearing. When testing, step away when horn starts sounding.

It is important to test this unit every week to make sure it is working properly. Using the test button is the recommended way to test this Smoke Alarm. Press and hold the test button on the cover of the unit until the alarm sounds (the unit may continue to alarm for a few seconds after you release the button). If it does not alarm, make sure the unit is receiving power and test it again. If it still does not alarm, replace it immediately. During testing, you will hear a loud, repeating horn pattern: 3 beeps, pause, 3 beeps, pause.

When testing a series of interconnected units you must test each unit individually. Make sure all units alarm when each one is tested.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

**WARNING!**
Use only the replacement batteries listed below. The unit may not operate properly with other batteries. Never use rechargeable batteries since they may not provide a constant charge.

This unit has been designed to be as maintenance-free as possible, but there are a few simple things you must do to keep it working properly:

- Test it at least once a week.
- Clean the Smoke Alarm at least once a month; gently vacuum the outside of the Smoke Alarm using your household vacuum's soft brush attachment. Test the Smoke Alarm. Never use water, cleaners or solvents since they may damage the unit.
- If the Smoke Alarm becomes contaminated by excessive dirt, dust and/or grime, and cannot be cleaned to avoid unwanted alarms, replace the unit immediately.
- Relocate the unit if it sounds frequent unwanted alarms. See "Locations To Avoid For Smoke Alarms" for details.

Model 7010B Only: When the battery back-up becomes weak, the Smoke Alarm will "chirp" about once a minute (the low battery warning). This warning should last 7 days, but you should replace the battery immediately to continue your protection.

Model 7010B Only – Choosing a replacement battery:
Your Smoke Alarm requires one standard 9V battery. The following batteries are acceptable as replacements: Duracell #MN1604, (Ultra) #MX1604; Everyday (Energizer) #522. You may also use a Lithium battery like the UltraLife U9VL-J for longer service life between battery changes. These batteries are available at many local retail stores.

**IMPORTANT!**
Actual battery service life depends on the smoke alarm and the environment in which it is installed. All the batteries specified above are acceptable replacement batteries for this unit. Regardless of the manufacturer’s suggested battery life, you MUST replace the battery immediately once the unit starts “chirping” (the "low battery warning").

IF THIS SMOKE ALARM SOUNDS

RESPONDING TO AN ALARM

During an alarm, you will hear a loud, repeating horn pattern: 3 beeps, pause, 3 beeps, pause.

**WARNING!**
- If the unit alarms and you are not testing the unit, it is warning you of a potentially dangerous situation that requires your immediate attention. NEVER ignore any alarm. Ignoring the alarm may result in injury or death.
- Never disconnect the AC power to quiet an unwanted alarm. Disconnecting the power disables the Alarm so it cannot sense smoke. This will remove your protection. Instead, open a window or fan the smoke away from the unit. The Alarm will reset automatically.
- If the unit alarms get everyone out of the house immediately.

**DANGER!**
- ELECTRICAL SHOCK HAZARD: Attempting to disconnect the power connector from the unit when the power is on may result in electrical shock, serious injury or death.

When an interconnected system of AC powered units is in alarm, the alarm indicator light on the unit(s) that initiated the alarm will blink rapidly. It will remain OFF on any remaining units.

If the unit alarms, get everyone out of the dwelling immediately.

If the unit alarms and you are certain that the source of smoke is not a fire—cooking smoke or an extremely dusty furnace, for example—open a nearby window or door and fan the smoke away from the unit (Use the Silence Feature to silence the Alarm). This will silence the alarm, and once the smoke clears the unit will reset itself automatically.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF FIRE

- Don’t panic; stay calm. Follow your family escape plan.
- Get out of the house as quickly as possible. Don’t stop to get dressed or collect anything.
- Feel doors with the back of your hand before opening them. If a door is cool, open it slowly. Don’t open a hot door. Keep doors and windows closed, unless you must escape through them.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a cloth (preferably damp). Take short, shallow breaths.
- Meet at your planned meeting place outside your home, and do a head count to make sure everybody got out safely.
- Call the Fire Department as soon as possible from outside. Give your address, then your name.
- Never go back inside a burning building for any reason.
- Contact your Fire Department for ideas on making your home safer.

**WARNING!**
Alarms have various limitations. See "Limitations of Smoke Alarms" for details.

USING THE SILENCE FEATURE

The Silence Feature can temporarily quiet an unwanted alarm for up to 15 minutes.

**WARNING!**
The Silence Feature does not disable the unit—it makes it temporarily less sensitive to smoke. For your safety, if smoke around the unit is dense enough to suggest a potentially dangerous situation, the unit will stay in alarm or may re-alarm quickly. If you do not know the source of the smoke, do not assume it is an unwanted alarm. Not responding to an alarm can result in property loss, injury, or death.

To silence Smoke Alarms in an interconnected series:
1. To silence multiple alarms in an interconnected series, you must press the Test/Silence button on the unit(s) that triggered the alarm.
2. Once you activate the Silence feature, the Red LED will flash approximately once every 10 seconds.
3. Pressing the Test/Silence button when in silence will restart the silence timer.

**IMPORTANT!**
The Silence Feature on these units can temporarily quiet an unwanted alarm for up to 15 minutes. To use this feature, press the Test/Silence button on the cover. If the unit will not silence and no heavy smoke is present, or if it stays in silence mode continuously, it should be replaced immediately.
**IF YOU SUSPECT A PROBLEM**

Smoke Alarms may not operate properly because of dead, missing or weak batteries (Model 7010B only), a build-up of dirt, dust or grease on the Smoke Alarm cover, or installation in an improper location. Clean the Smoke Alarm as described in “Regular Maintenance,” and install a fresh battery, then test the Smoke Alarm again. If it fails to test properly when you use the test button, or if the problem persists, replace the Smoke Alarm immediately.

- If you hear a “chirp” approximately once a minute, replace the battery (Model 7010B only).
- If you experience frequent non-emergency alarms (like those caused by cooking smoke), try relocating the Smoke Alarm.
- If the alarm sounds when no smoke is visible, try cleaning or relocating the Smoke Alarm. The cover may be dirty.
- If the alarm does not sound during testing, make sure it is receiving AC power from the household current.

**WARNING!**

Always discharge the branch circuit before servicing an AC or AC/DC Smoke Alarm. First, turn off the AC power at the circuit breaker or fuse box. Next, remove the battery from Smoke Alarms with battery back-up. Finally, press and hold the test button for 5-10 seconds to discharge the branch circuit.

**Do not try fixing the alarm yourself – this will void your warranty!**

If the Smoke Alarm is still not operating properly, and it is still under warranty, please see “How to Obtain Warranty Service” in the Limited Warranty.

**RECOMMENDED LOCATIONS FOR SMOKE ALARMS**

**Installing Smoke Alarms in Single-Family Residences**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), recommends one Smoke Alarm on every floor, in every sleeping area, and in every bedroom. In new construction, the Smoke Alarms must be AC powered and interconnected. See “Agency Placement Recommendations” for details. For additional coverage, it is recommended that you install a Smoke Alarm in all rooms, halls, storage areas, finished attics, and basements, where temperatures normally remain between 40˚ F (4˚ C) and 100˚ F (38˚ C). Make sure no door or other obstruction could keep smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarms.

More specifically, install Smoke Alarms:
- On every level of your home, including finished attics and basements.
- Inside every bedroom, especially if people sleep with the door open or completely closed.
- In the hall near every sleeping area. If your home has multiple sleeping areas, install a unit in each. If a hall is more than 40 feet long (12 meters), install a unit at each end.
- At the top of the first-to-second floor stairway, and at the bottom of the basement stairway.

**IMPORTANT!**

Specific requirements for Smoke Alarm installation vary from state to state and from region to region. Check with your local Fire Department for current requirements in your area. It is recommended AC or AC/DC units be interconnected for added protection.

**BATTERY OPERATED AND WIRELESS**

**HARDWIRED**

**AGENCY PLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

NFPA 72 (National Fire Code) Chapter 11

“For your information, the National Fire Protection Association’s Standard 72, reads as follows:”

“11.5.1 One- and Two-Family Dwelling Units.”

“11.5.1.1 Smoke Detection. Where required by applicable laws, codes, or standards for the specified occupancy, approved single- and multiple-station Smoke Alarms shall be installed as follows: (1) in all sleeping rooms. Exception: Smoke Alarms shall not be required in sleeping rooms in existing one- and two-family dwelling units. (2) Outside of each separate sleeping area, in immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms. (3) On each level of the dwelling unit, including basements. Exception: In existing one- and two-family dwelling units, approved Smoke Alarms powered by batteries are permitted.”

“A11.8.3 Are More Smoke Alarms Desirable? The required number of Smoke Alarms might not provide reliable early warning protection for those areas separated by a door from the areas protected by the required Smoke Alarms. For this reason, it is recommended that the household consider the use of additional Smoke Alarms for those areas for increased protection. The additional areas include the basement, bedrooms, dining room, furnace room, utility room, and hallways not protected by the required Smoke Alarms. The installation of Smoke Alarms in basements, unfinished attics, or garages is not normally recommended, as these locations occasionally experience conditions that can result in improper operation.”

California State Fire Marshal (CSFM)

Early warning detection is best achieved by the installation of fire detection equipment in all rooms and areas of the household as follows: A Smoke Alarm installed in each separate sleeping area (in the vicinity, but outside bedrooms), and in the Heat or Smoke Alarms in the living rooms, dining rooms, bedrooms, halls, finished attics, furnace rooms, closets, utility and storage rooms, basements, and attached garages.

**LOCATIONS TO AVOID FOR SMOKE ALARMS**

For best performance, AVOID installing Smoke Alarms in these areas:

- Where combustion products are produced. Combustion products form when something is burned. Areas to avoid include poorly ventilated kitchens, garages, and furnace rooms. Keep units at least 20 feet (6 meters) from the sources of combustion products (above, furnace, water heater, space heater) if possible. In areas where a 20-foot distance is not possible – in modular, mobile, or smaller homes, for example – it is recommended the Smoke Alarm be placed as far from these fuel-burning sources as possible. The placement recommendations are intended to keep these Alarms at a reasonable distance from a fuel-burning source, and thus reduce “unwanted” alarms. Unwanted alarms can occur if a Smoke Alarm is placed directly next to a fuel-burning source. Ventilate these areas as much as possible.
- In air streams near kitchens. Air currents can draw cooking smoke into the sensing chamber of a Smoke Alarm near the kitchen.
- In very damp, humid or steamy areas, or directly near bathrooms with showers. Keep units at least 10 feet (3 meters) away from showers, saunas, dishwashers, etc.
- Where the temperatures are regularly below 40˚ F (4˚ C) or above 100˚ F (38˚ C) including unheated buildings, outdoor rooms, porches, or unfinished attics or basements.
- In very dusty, dirty, or greasy areas. Do not install a Smoke Alarm directly over the stove or range. Clean a laundry room unit frequently to keep it free of dust or lint.
- Near fresh air vents, ceiling fans, or in very drafty areas. Drafts can blow smoke away from the unit, preventing it from reaching the sensing chamber.
- In insect infested areas. Insects can clog openings to the sensing chamber and cause unwanted alarms.
- Less than 12 inches (305 mm) away from fluorescent lights. Electrical “noise” can interfere with the sensor.
- In “dead air” spaces. “Dead air” spaces may prevent smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarm.

**AVOIDING DEAD AIR SPACES**

“Dead air” spaces may prevent smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarm. To avoid dead air spaces, follow the installation recommendations below.

On ceilings, install Smoke Alarms as close to the center of the ceiling as possible. If this is not possible, install the Smoke Alarm at least 4 inches (102 mm) from the wall or corner.

For wall mounting (if allowed by building codes), the top edge of Smoke Alarms should be placed between 4 inches (102 mm) and 12 inches (305 mm) from the wall/ceiling line, below typical “dead air” spaces.

On a peaked, gabled, or cathedral ceiling, install the first Smoke Alarm within 3 feet (0.9 meters) of the peak of the ceiling, measured horizontally. Additional Smoke Alarms may be required depending on the length, angle, etc. of the ceiling’s slope. Refer to NFPA 72 for details on requirements for sloped or peaked ceilings.
ABOUT SMOKE ALARMS

Battery (DC) operated Smoke Alarms: Provide protection even when electricity fails, provided the batteries are fresh and correctly installed. Units are easy to install, and may not require professional installation. They do not, however, provide interconnected functionality.

AC powered Smoke Alarms: Can be interconnected so if one unit senses smoke, all units alarm. They do not operate if electricity fails. AC with battery (DC) back-up: will operate if electricity fails, provided the batteries are fresh and correctly installed. AC and DC/DC units must be installed by a qualified electrician.

Wireless Interconnected Alarms: Offer the same interconnected functionality as with hardwired alarms, without wires. Units are easy to install and do not require professional installation. They provide protection even when electricity fails, provided the batteries are fresh and correctly installed.

Smoke Alarms for Solar or Wind Energy users and battery backup power systems: AC powered Smoke Alarms should only be operated with true or pure sine wave inverters. Operating this Smoke Alarm with most battery-powered UPS (uninterruptible power supply) products or square wave or “quasi sine wave” inverters will damage the Alarm. If you are not sure about your inverter or UPS type, please consult with the manufacturer to verify.

Smoke Alarms for the hearing impaired: Special purpose Smoke Alarms should be installed for the hearing impaired. They include a visual alarm and an audible alarm horn, and meet the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act. These units can be interconnected so if one unit senses smoke, all units alarm.

Smoke alarms are not to be used with detector guards unless the combination has been evaluated and found suitable for that purpose. All these Smoke Alarms are designed to provide early warning of fires if located, installed and cared for as described in the user’s manual, and if smoke reaches the Alarm. If you are unsure which type of unit to install, refer to NFPA National Fire Protection Association) 72 (National Fire Alarm Code) and NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code), National Fire Protection Association, One Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269. Some jurisdictions may require specific units in new construction or in different areas of the home.

SPECIAL COMPLIANCE CONSIDERATIONS

WARNING! This Smoke Alarm alone is not a suitable substitute for complete fire detection systems in places housing many people—like apartment buildings, condominiums, hotels, motels, dormitories, hospitals, long-term health care facilities, nursing homes, day care facilities, or group homes of any kind—even if they were once single-family homes. It is not a suitable substitute for complete fire detection systems in warehouses, industrial facilities, commercial buildings, and special-purpose non-residential buildings which require special fire detection and alarm systems.

According to the building codes in your area, this Smoke Alarm may be required to provide additional protection in these facilities.

The following information applies to all four types of buildings listed below:

In new construction, most building codes require the use of AC or AC/DC powered Smoke Alarms only. AG, AC/DC, or DC powered Smoke Alarms can be used in existing construction as specified by local building codes. Refer to NFPA 72 (National Fire Alarm Code) and NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code), local building codes, or consult your Fire Department for detailed fire protection requirements in buildings not defined as “households.”

1. Single-Family Residence:
   Single family home, townhouse. It is recommended Smoke Alarms be installed on every level of the home, in every bedroom, and in every bedroom hallway.

2. Multi-Family or Mixed Occupant Residence:
   Apartment building, condominium. This Smoke Alarm is suitable for use in individual apartment units provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like lobbies, hallways, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection ordinances/regulations.

3. Institutions:
   Hospitals, day care facilities, long-term health care facilities. This Smoke Alarm is suitable for use in individual patient sleeping/resident rooms, provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like lobbies, hallways, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection ordinances/regulations.

4. Hotels and Motels:
   Also boarding houses and dormitories. This Smoke Alarm is suitable for use inside individual sleeping/resident rooms, provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like lobbies, hallways, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection ordinances/regulations.

LIMITATIONS OF SMOKE ALARMS

Smoke Alarms have played a key role in reducing deaths resulting from home fires worldwide. However, like any warning device, Smoke Alarms can only work if they are properly located, installed, and maintained, and if smoke reaches the Alarms. They are not foolproof.

Smoke alarms may not wake all individuals. Practice the escape plan at least twice a year, making sure everyone is involved—kids to parents.

Allow children to master fire escape planning and practice before holding a fire drill at night when they are sleeping. If children or others do not readily wake to the sound of the smoke alarm when there are infants or family members with mobility limitations, make sure that someone is assigned to assist them in fire drill and in the event of an emergency. Dismiss the fire alarm if everyone is safe. While family members are sleeping in order to determine their response to the sound of the smoke alarm while sleeping and to determine whether they may need assistance in the event of an emergency.

Smoke Alarms cannot work without power. Battery operated units cannot work if the batteries are missing, disconnected or dead, or if the wrong type of batteries are used. If the batteries are correctly installed, AC powered smoke alarms will not be affected if the AC power is cut off for any reason (open fuse or circuit breaker, failure along a power line or in the power station, electrical storm, etc.). If you are concerned about the limitations of battery or AC power, install both types of units.

Smoke Alarms may not detect fires if the smoke does not reach the Alarms. Smoke from fires in chimneys or walls, on roofs, or on the other side of closed doors may not reach the sensing chamber and set off the Alarm. That is why one unit should be installed inside each bedroom or sleeping area—especially if bedroom or sleeping area doors are closed at night and in the hallway between them.

Smoke Alarms may not detect fire on another floor or area of the dwelling. For example, a stand-alone unit on the second floor may not detect smoke from a basement fire until the fire spreads. This may not give you enough time to escape safely. That is why recommended minimum protection is at least one unit in every sleeping area, and every bedroom on every level of your dwelling. Even with a unit on every floor, stand-alone units may not provide as much protection as interconnected units, especially if the fire starts in a remote area. Some safety experts recommend installing interconnected AC powered smoke alarms (also called “hardwired Smoke Alarms”) or professional fire detection systems, so if one unit senses smoke, all units alarm. Interconnected units may provide earlier warning than stand-alone units since all units detect smoke when one alarm sounds.

Smoke Alarms may not be heard. Though the alarm horn in this unit meets or exceeds current standards, it may not be heard if: 1) the unit is located outside a closed or partially closed window or door, 2) residents recently consumed alcohol or drugs, 3) the Alarm is drowned out by noise from stereo, TV, traffic, air conditioner or other appliance, 4) residents are hearing impaired or sound sleepers. Special purpose smoke alarms, like those with visual and audible alarms, should be installed for hearing impaired residents.

Smoke Alarms may not have time to alarm before the fire itself causes damage, injury, or death, since smoke from some fires may not reach the unit immediately. Examples of this include persons smoking in bed, children playing with matches, or fires caused by violent explosions resulting from escaping gas.

Smoke Alarms are not foolproof. Like any electronic device, Smoke Alarms are made of components that can wear out or fail at any time. You must test the unit monthly (as recommended by Smoke Alarms”) or professional fire detection systems, so if one unit senses smoke, all units alarm. Interconnected units may provide earlier warning than stand-alone units since all units detect smoke when one alarm sounds.

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