



ROCKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts Smoke/CO Alarm Requirements Typical one- and two-family residences permitted on or after January 1, 2008

Smoke alarms are required as follows:

- One smoke alarm on every habitable level of the residence.
- One smoke alarm at the base of each stairway.
- One smoke alarm outside of each separate sleeping area.
- One smoke alarm inside every bedroom.
- A minimum of one smoke alarm must be installed for every 1,200 square feet of living space per level.
- Must be hardwired and interconnected smoke alarms with battery backup.
- If the smoke alarm is within 20 feet of a kitchen or bathroom (containing a bathtub or shower), the smoke alarm is required to be a photoelectric alarm.
- If the smoke alarm is more than 20 feet from a kitchen or a bathroom (containing a bathtub or shower), the smoke alarm is required to be either a photoelectric alarm or a dual alarm (containing both ionization and photoelectric technologies).

Carbon monoxide alarms are required as follows:

- On every level of the residence, including habitable portions of basements and attics and located within 10 feet of each bedroom door.
- Combination alarms (photoelectric smoke and carbon monoxide alarm) may be used. – Must be hardwired and interconnected with battery backup. (May be separately wired from the existing smoke detection system.)
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement.

Heat alarms/detector are required as follows:

- Must have a single heat alarm in any garage attached to or under the residence.
- Must be hardwired and interconnected with or without battery backup to the existing smoke detection system.
- Heat alarms are not required in garages of older homes unless renovation, addition or modification occurs after Jan. 1, 2008.