

Home Fire Safety

FACT SHEET



Tasmania Fire Service

Smoke alarms



! REMEMBER: only working smoke alarms save lives!

You are more likely to die in a house fire without a working smoke alarm, especially when sleeping. When you're asleep, you lose your sense of smell.

A working smoke alarm provides you with early warning of a fire and gives you time to escape safely.

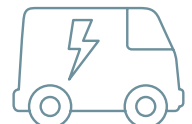
The Tasmania Fire Service recommends:

-  Installing a photoelectric smoke alarm in all sleeping areas, living areas, hallways, and above stairways in multi-storey homes.
-  Installing photoelectric smoke alarms with a 10-year long-life lithium battery.
-  Interconnecting smoke alarms so that if any alarm activates, all smoke alarms will sound.
-  Using the latest technology when selecting new smoke alarms, such as smoke alarms that shout "Fire, Fire!" to better alert children.
-  Considering carbon monoxide alarms for rooms that have gas appliances and/or wood heaters.
-  Replacing smoke alarms every 10 years. Ensure you purchase an alarm that meets Australian Standards.



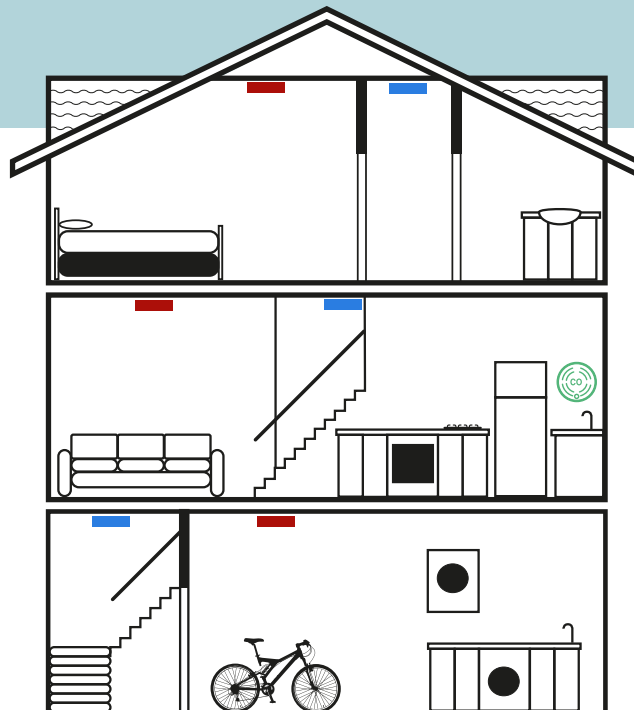
Install on a ceiling on each level of the house at least 30cm away from the wall or any other objects.

Some smoke alarms may need to be installed by a qualified electrician. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations.







Smoke alarms



Placing smoke alarms

 **Required by law:** A smoke alarm in all hallways.

 A smoke alarm at the top of all stairways.

 **Tasmania Fire Service recommends:**

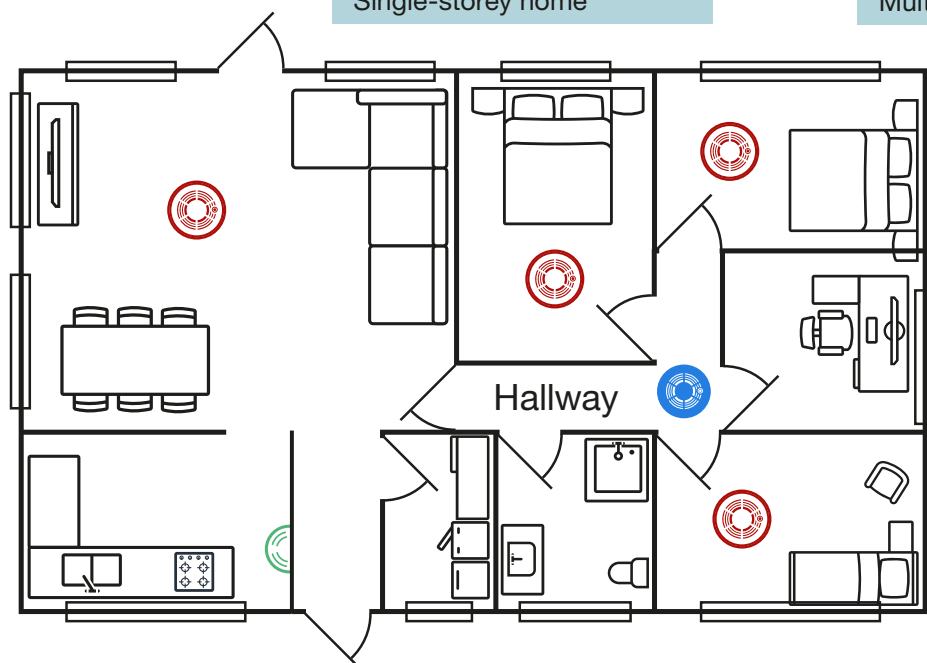
These extra locations.

 **Tasmania Fire Service recommends:**


Carbon monoxide alarms for gas appliances and wood heaters.


Single-storey home


Multi-storey home





Hot tips


 If you have a smoke alarm with a 9-volt battery, replace the battery every year.

 Smoke alarms can collect dust! Make sure you dust around your smoke alarms using a vacuum with a soft brush.

 If your smoke alarm emits a single, occasional beep, it may require cleaning, the battery may need changing, or the smoke alarm may be faulty and must be replaced.

 For older people or people with a disability smoke alarms should be connected to a personal alarm system.

 Young children are likely to sleep through the sound of a smoke alarm, so you must alert them to a fire and help them escape to safety.

 Interconnect smoke alarms so when one goes off they all go off alerting you and your family as quickly as possible if there is a fire.



Ideally replace all smoke alarms every 10 years with a sealed lithium battery unit, or replace with a 9-volt battery every 12 months.