



Tasmania Fire Service

Home Fire Safety

FACT SHEET

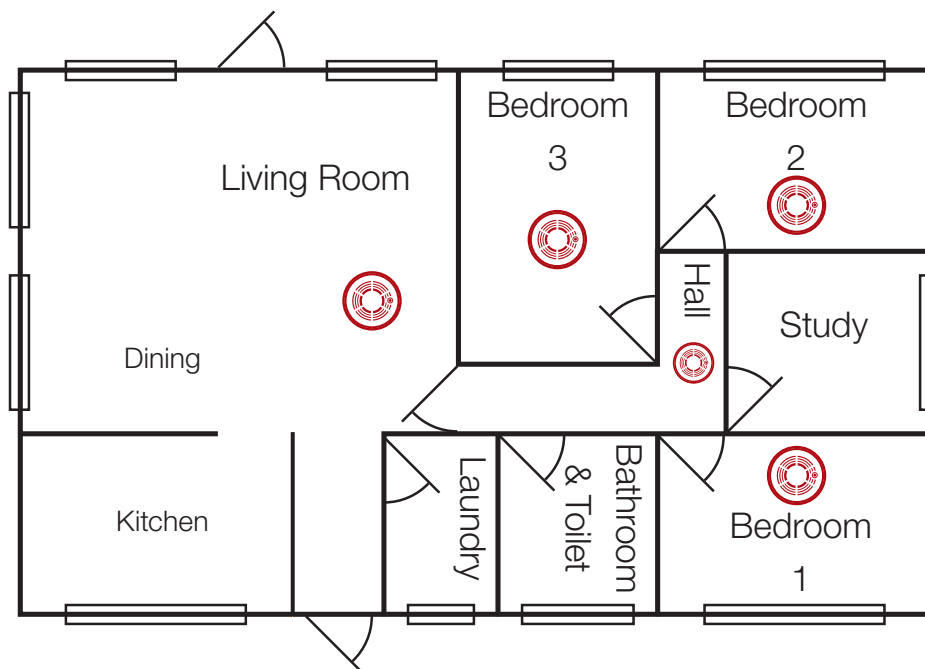
Smoke Alarms

Only working smoke alarms save lives!

- You should **install** a photoelectric smoke alarm in each sleeping area (bedroom), hallway, living area and the top of stairways in a multi-level home. **Smoke alarms** should be supported by a home fire escape plan.
- **Test** alarms monthly.
- **Vacuum** dust from alarms every six months.
- **Replace** batteries once a year. Some alarms have 10 year lithium batteries that do not need replacing every year.
- **Mains powered smoke alarms** also have back-up batteries - check with the manufacturer if your model has batteries that need to be replaced regularly, or whether it has a re-chargeable battery.
- 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.
- **Installation** of a smoke alarm is quick and easy. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Generally, because smoke rises, mounting in the middle of the ceiling is recommended.
- **Maximum protection** can be gained from interconnecting smoke alarms - when one smoke alarm operates, all connected alarms will operate.
- All alarms have a **use by date of 10 years**, after this time, the entire alarm must be replaced.

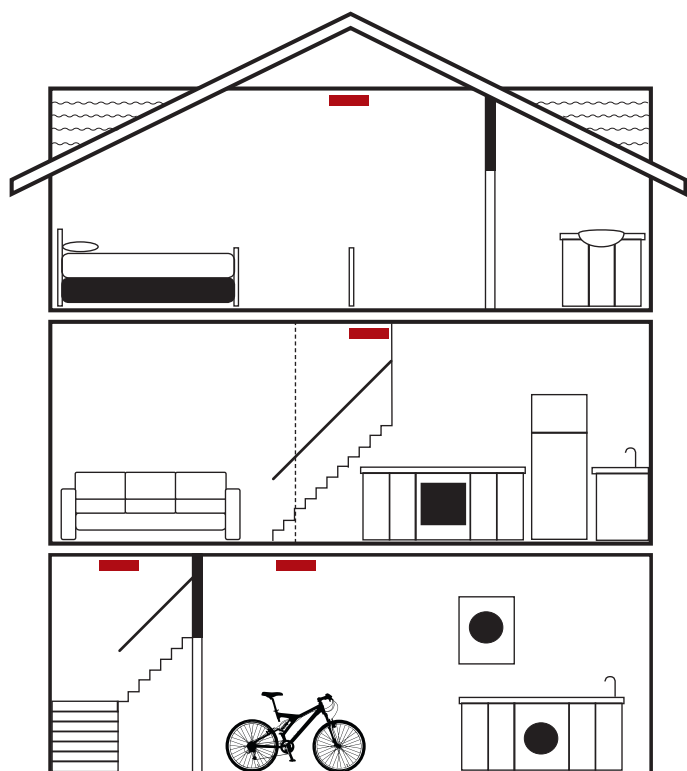


Where best to position your smoke alarms



Single Level Homes

Install a photoelectric smoke alarm in every sleeping area (bedroom), hallway and living area.



Multi Level Homes

Install a photoelectric smoke alarm in every sleeping area (bedroom), hallway, living area and on the ceiling at the top of the stairway connecting the levels.



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Important

All smoke alarms must be replaced every 10 years.

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