

## Smoke/CO Alarm Reference Sheet

SMOKE ALARM POWER SOURCE		Homes Built or Substantially Modified				
SMOKE POWER	Smoke Alarm Power Source(s)	Before 1975	1975 - 8/27/97	8/27/97 -2007	1/2008 -2/2011	2/1/2011 -PRESENT
	Authority	MGL 148/NFPA 1	MA BLD CODE 2-5	MA BLD CODE # 6	MA BLD CODE # 7	780 CMR/ BLD Ed. 8
	Battery Powered	<b>Lithium Sealed</b>	<i>NOT allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>
	Hardwired, Interconnected	Allowed	<b>REQUIRED</b>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>
	Hardwired Interconnected w/ Battery Back-up	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>REQUIRED</b>	<b>REQUIRED</b>	<b>REQUIRED</b>

SMOKE ALARM TYPE		Homes Built or Substantially Modified				
SMOKE DETECTOR TYPE	Type of Smoke Alarm Installed	Before 1975	1975 - 8/27/97	8/27/97 -2007	1/2008 -2/2011	2/1/2011 -PRESENT
	Authority	MGL 148/NFPA 1	MA BLD CODE 2-5	MA BLD CODE # 6	MA BLD CODE # 7	780 CMR/ BLD Ed. 8
	OUTSIDE of 20 Feet of Kitchen or Full Bathroom	<b>Must</b> have Photo & CAN have Ionization*	Photoelectric <b>OR</b> Ionization	Photoelectric <b>OR</b> Ionization	Photoelectric <b>OR</b> Dual Detector	Photoelectric
	Within 20 Feet of Kitchen or Full Bathroom	Photoelectric	Photoelectric <b>OR</b> Ionization	Photoelectric	Photoelectric	Photoelectric

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM		Homes Built or Substantially Modified				
CARBON MONOXIDE	Carbon Monoxide Alarm Installed	Before 1975	1975 - 8/27/97	8/27/97 -2007	1/2008 -2/2011	2/1/2011 -PRESENT
	Authority	MGL 148/NFPA 1	MA BLD CODE 2-5	MA BLD CODE # 6	MA BLD CODE # 7	780 CMR/ BLD Ed. 8
	Battery Powered	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	<i>NOT Allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>
	Plug-In with Battery Back-up	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	<i>NOT Allowed</i>	<i>NOT Allowed</i>
	Hardwired Interconnected w/ Battery Back-up	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	<b>REQUIRED</b>	<b>REQUIRED</b>

ALARM LOCATION REQUIREMENTS		Homes Built or Substantially Modified				
LOCATION REQUIREMENTS	Smoke/CO Alarm Placement	Before 1975	1975 - 8/27/97	8/27/97 -2007	1/2008 -2/2011	2/1/2011 -PRESENT
	Authority	MGL 148/NFPA 1	MA BLD CODE 2-5	MA BLD CODE # 6	MA BLD CODE # 7	780 CMR/ BLD Ed. 8
	Basement (ALL)	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	HW PSA/CO
	Every Habitable Level	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	HW PSA/CO
	Base of Stairs	SA	SA	SA	SA	HW PSA
	Outside EACH sleeping area (w/in 10 ft)	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	HW PSA/CO
	Inside Every Bedroom	NOT REQUIRED	NOT REQUIRED	SA	SA	HW PSA
	Finished Attic (Habitable)	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	SA/CO	HW PSA/CO
Garage (Attached)	NOT REQUIRED	NOT REQUIRED	NOT REQUIRED	HW Heat	HW Heat	

HW=Hardwired/Interconnected, w/Battery Back-up    SA=Smoke Alarm    PSA=Photoelectric SA    HD=Heat Detector    CO=Carbon Monoxide Alarm

**SMOKE ALARMS:** All Smoke & Combo alarms must be **CEILING** mounted.

**PHOTOELECTRIC - [P]:** Most common type of alarm and most often used as a Smoke/CO combination alarm.

**IONIZATION - (i):** Alarms which state: "contains radioactive material" utilize Ionization technology & most likely not allowed.

**CARBON MONOXIDE:** CO Alarms **MUST** be **OUTSIDE of sleeping areas**, within 10 ft of sleeping area door

**DUAL DEVICE** = one alarm device with both Photoelectric [p] and Ionization technology (i).

**COMBO ALARMS:** All Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms combined into one device **MUST** have a **Voice/Talking** feature

**PRE-75 HOMES:** If not Hardwired, all Smoke Alarms **MUST** be **Lithium Sealed** battery & all alarms **MUST** not be **older than 10 years**.

**LOW VOLTAGE:** Low Voltage fire warning systems are exempt from the dual detector technology requirement.

**THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE**

**For assistance contact:**  
**Boston Fire Department**  
**Fire Prevention Division**  
**617-343-2191**