

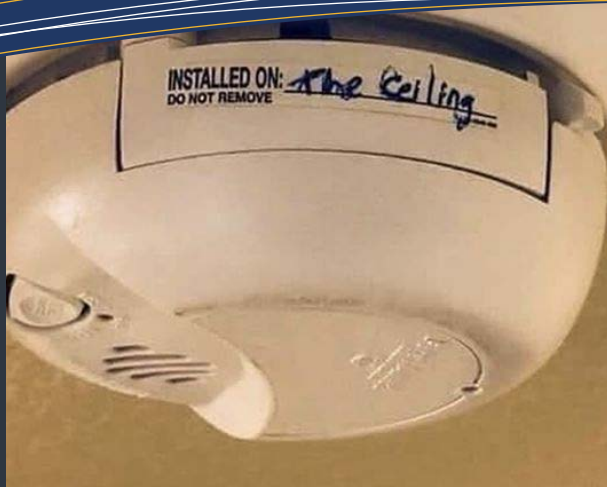
Leading Causes of House Fires

1. Cooking – 48%
2. Heating – objects too close to space heaters, fire places, fuel burning heaters
3. Electrical – faulty wiring; 51,000 fires and 500+ deaths a year
4. Candles – 21 candle related house fires reported daily
5. Smoking – accounts for only 5% of house fires, but is the leading cause of fire deaths (2019 NFPA Home Structure Fires Report)

Choosing and Installing Smoke Detectors

- Choose alarms that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Install alarms inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- On levels without bedrooms, install alarms in the living/den/family room and/or near the stairway to the upper level.
- Alarms installed in the basement should be installed on the ceiling at the bottom of the stairs leading to the next level.
- Alarms should be installed at least 10' from a cooking appliance.
- Mount smoke alarms on ceilings or on a wall no more than 12" below the ceiling.

There are an average of 358,500 house fires a year, costing an est. \$8 Billion



Smoke Detectors

Have You Checked the Battery?

I Think They Meant the Date. . .

It's 2am, you're finally asleep after a long day and you wake to, "Chirp." It's loud enough to wake you, but not loud enough for you to tell where it's coming from. Another 60 seconds goes by and you hear, "Chirp." Now you know. Your smoke detector is letting you know that battery is low.

The easiest way to solve this, and to prevent it from ever happening again is to routinely replace your detector's battery. The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) recommends replacing the battery every 6 months to ensure safe and continuous operation. An easy way to remember this is to change it every Christmas/New Years, and every July 4th. Basically, the two times of year when we have fireworks.

But, are smoke detectors even worth the trouble? The answer is emphatically, YES!

According to the National Safety Council, 3 out of every 5 related fire deaths occur in homes without operational smoke detectors. Additional, even though fire doesn't discriminate by age, it is the third leading cause of death of children ages 1 to 14.

Did you know that smoke detectors also have a recommended life span? You should replace them every 10 years. Write the installation date on the inside of the battery cover so you'll know when to replace it.

Contact Safe Workforce today for your safety and training needs!

Minimize Your Home Fire Risk

- Cooking fires accounts for almost half of all house fires! When cooking, remain in the kitchen. Keep flammable items away from the cooking surface and out of reach of splattering grease. Never put out a grease fire with water.
- Heating is the second leading cause. Per the NFPA, keep all flammable items at least 3' from any heat source. Never leave portable heaters or fireplaces unattended. If you use a space heater, make sure it has an automatic shut off in case it gets knocked over, and always use it on flat and level surfaces.
- Other causes of fire include smoking, poor electrical/extension cord use, and a children playing with matches or lighters.
- Have a fire extinguisher in your house, and one readily available if you have an outdoor cooking area. Inspect it regularly for proper charge and usability, and know how to use it.

House fires are tragic, and can be deadly. However, a little bit of prevention and preparedness can drastically reduce the risk of a fire incident, and can save lives.