



The Leading Cause of Severe House Fires is an Inadequate Smoke Alarm System

Smoke - The decrease in severe house fires over the last few decades is not an invitation to relax when it comes to fire safety. This decrease is due to good smoke alarm systems.

Well placed smoke alarms throughout your home help ensure that you can escape safely and that a fire will be detected quickly because smoke spreads quicker than fire. Quick detection also means less damage to your home.

Most homes don't have the recommended number of smoke detectors. Every bedroom should have one smoke detector. Any additional sleeping area and hallways should have at least one each, as well. A typical 3 bedroom home with a full, unfinished basement should have 5 to 8 smoke detectors. A finished basement might need more, especially one with a bedroom. They should also be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.

If you are hard-of-hearing special smoke detectors can be installed with strobe lights and bed or pillow shakers. These can be interconnected with each other or with regular detectors. They will flash or vibrate when they are triggered.

Carbon Monoxide - To avoid carbon monoxide build-up in your home, it is highly recommended that your furnace be serviced by a qualified technician at least once a year. Carbon Monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas that can take lives without warning. It is produced by any device dependent on fossil fuels. This includes home heating systems.

Most modern smoke detectors include CO detectors. An intermittent beep from a CO detector sounding similar to a low battery warning could be telling you that your home has reached dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

If you hear this intermittent beep and you or anyone in your home has a headache or is nauseous, dizzy vomiting or confused, you should suspect that carbon monoxide has built up in your home. You should call 9-1-1 and get to a hospital immediately. Do not re-enter your home until emergency services have advised that it is safe to do so.

If you hear the intermittent beep and no one shows signs of the common symptoms, ventilate your home by opening all your windows and turning off all gas-dependent appliances and generators. After ventilating your home, reset the CO detector. If the detector does not sound again, call a qualified technician to inspect and repair any problems. If the alarm sounds again and still no one is showing signs of CO poisoning call your local fire department. They will let you know when its safe to return home.

Smart Smoke/CO Detectors are quickly becoming the standard for all homes. These detectors link with your smart phone and can send you an alert if the alarm goes off while you are at work or on vacation. Smart smoke detectors can also be temporarily deactivated while cooking.

Smoke/CO detector units should be replaced every 10 years. Batteries should be replaced at least once a year. Twice a year at daylight savings time is recommended.

One Stop Home Repair is looking out for your safety. Give us a call today for a free estimate to install an interconnected smoke alarm system throughout your home. One Stop Home Repair is also offering a free smoke alarm quality inspection.

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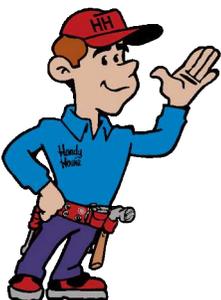
Call Today for a Free Estimate on Interconnected Smoke/CO Detectors



Ask Handy Howie

Smoke Alarm Safety Tips

- 1) Clean collected dust and push the test button at least every 6 months.
- 2) Never deactivate a smoke alarm while cooking.
- 3) Smoke alarms should be interconnected, so when one sounds, they all sound.
- 4) Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years to ensure optimum performance.



Quick Handyman Projects

Even though, you can always ask your favorite handyman to help with your quick projects, you can save money by doing some of them on your own.



CO/Smoke Detector batteries should be replaced at least once a year. Twice a year is recommended. If you need a hand with battery replacement, don't hesitate to give us a call.

Always ask a professional if you're unsure you can complete a project.

One Stop Home Repair understands safety is priceless.

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