

SMOKE ALARMS

The Building Code requires that smoke alarms be installed in the following locations in all new dwelling units.

- In each sleeping room (bedroom) within the dwelling
- In the area immediately outside the door(s) to all sleeping quarters
- At least one on each additional story of the dwelling
- In the basement
- (Smoke detectors are not required in crawl spaces or in attics)

Alarms should be located on ceilings or walls in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Split level dwellings may require smoke alarms to be located on each level.

In new dwellings, all alarms must be hard-wired and have a battery back-up, and they must all be interconnected.

The Code also requires that alarms be installed in the above-noted locations of existing dwellings any time a building permit is issued for an addition or for interior repairs or alterations.

In existing dwellings, newly-installed alarms must be hard-wired in rooms where framing is exposed and must be hard-wired and interconnected between adjacent rooms with exposed framing. Alarms being installed in rooms where interior finishes are not being removed and/or framing is not exposed may be battery operated only.