

When you adjust your clocks for daylight savings time, take the time to check that your smoke, and carbon monoxide (CO), alarms work properly.

What you need to know:

What type are they?

- Ionization alarm: more responsive to a flaming fire—a kitchen fire.
- Photoelectric alarm: more responsive to a smoldering fire—a cigarette dropped on the sofa.
- Dual sensor alarm: able to detect both fire types.
- Combination smoke and CO alarm.
 - ✓ Do you have the proper alarms for your home?

How old are they?

- Replace any alarm that's 10 years old or older.

What you want to see:

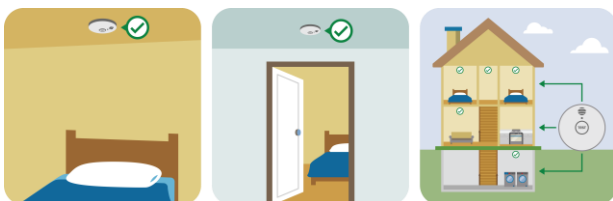
- Alarms are securely fastened to the wall or ceiling.
- No physical damage, paint splatters, or a buildup of grease or dirt.
- Ventilation holes are clean and free of obstructions.
- The signal sounded when alarm was tested.
 - ✓ Test the signal monthly.
- The batteries are securely installed.
 - ✓ Replace the batteries.

What type of batteries do you need?

- 9-volt is common, but other types are used.
 - ✓ Always use high-quality batteries.
- 10-year lithium aren't generally replaced—at 10 years, replace the alarm.

Are your alarms in the proper locations?

Smoke:



- ✓ One in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- ✓ To reduce false alarms, place smoke alarms at least 10 feet from the kitchen stove.

Carbon Monoxide (CO):

- ✓ Next to each sleeping area if a fuel-burning appliance or fireplace/woodstove is in the home, including one in an attached garage.

Smoke alarm locations as recommended by the [U.S. Fire Administration](https://www.fda.gov). For CO alarms carefully read and follow the installation instructions. Always check if your local area has stricter requirements or recommendations for either alarm.