

SMOKE ALARMS

SAVE LIVES

FOSTER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Every year, fire continues to claim thousands of American lives in homes without working smoke alarms.

It is time to wake up.

Having just one working smoke detector properly installed in the home can cut the risk of dying, in a home fire, in half.

We recommend installing one on every level of your home!



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**A working smoke alarm
can be the difference
between life and death**

SMOKE ALARMS

They can only save your life if they're present and functional

While this many this might seem like very obvious and common knowledge, statistics show that this is not the case. The lack of understanding and education that exists today on this serious matter has led to many devastating and deadly events.

Research by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) indicates that while 94% of American homes have at least one smoke alarm, more than 1/3 are inoperable because of dead or missing batteries. Nearly 1/2 of our nation's fire deaths occur in the 6% of homes with no smoke alarms at all.

the great illusion

Research by the Society of Fire Protection Engineers shows that the vast majority of Americans, 79%, feel safer from fire in their homes than in public buildings. The fact is, public buildings have strict safety regulations, and are significantly better protected than homes. Home fires out number other building fires by more than three to one. **Fact: The majority of fires occur in the home while you are sleeping.**

the great advice

- Place smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area and in every bedroom.
- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Vacuum alarms annually to remove dust and cobwebs.
- Smoke alarms ten years old and older need to be replaced.
- Alarms should never be disconnected and batteries should never be removed for other uses.



a working smoke alarm *doubles* your chances of surviving a fire

Test

Test your smoke alarm at least once a month. Push the test button or blow smoke into the detector.



Clean

Clean your alarm at a minimum of once a year. Vacuum out the dust and cobwebs that have accumulated.



Replace

Replace the battery twice a year - when you change your clocks in the spring and fall.



Replace your alarm after 10 years