



PORTLAND FIRE PREVENTION &
COMMUNITY OUTREACH BUREAU
Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Background:

The City of Portland Code of Ordinances Chapter 10 has adopted NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, NFPA 1 Fire Code, MUBEC, along with other building codes, which have requirements for Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors.

Existing Buildings:

Smoke Detectors

- New smoke detectors must be powered by the building's electrical service and must have a secondary power source (battery)*
- New smoke alarms must use photoelectric technology
- Detectors are required to be installed in the following locations:
 - Inside all sleeping rooms
 - Outside each separate sleeping area, in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping areas (immediate vicinity is defined as within 21 feet)
 - On each level of the dwelling unit, including basements but excluding attics and crawl spaces.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- New carbon monoxide detectors shall be hard wired and powered by the buildings electrical service.
- Detectors shall be provided in the following areas.
 - Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping areas
 - On each level of the dwelling unit, including basements but excluding attics and crawl spaces
 - Habitable rooms with fuel burning appliances

A combination smoke and carbon monoxide detector installed in the common area of a unit or building may provide the required detection for both smoke and carbon monoxide.

New Buildings:

- All of the above conditions for existing buildings shall apply and
- All Smoke Alarms in the dwelling unit must be interconnected.

Additional Restrictions:

- Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be installed within a 36 in. horizontal path from a door to a bathroom containing a shower or tub.
- Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be installed within a 36 in. horizontal path from the supply registers of a forced air heating or cooling system and shall be installed outside of the direct airflow from those registers.
- Smoke alarms and smoke detectors shall not be installed within a 36 in. horizontal path from the tip of the blade of a ceiling-suspended (paddle) fan.
- Smoke alarms should not be placed within 10 feet of cooking appliances.
- Smoke Alarm shall not remain in service longer than 10 years from the date of manufacture.

**Existing 1 & 2 Family buildings may install 10 year sealed battery powered detectors in lieu of hard-wired.*



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Diagram 1- Placement of detectors on walls and ceilings

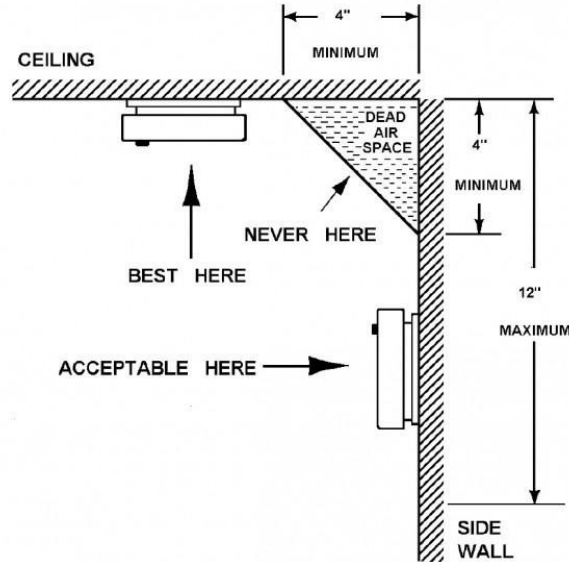


Diagram 2- Placement of detectors throughout a dwelling unit

