

Smoke Detector Placement

Placement Requirements

- As stated by the NFPA: "Since smoke and deadly gases rise, alarms should be placed on the ceiling at least 4 inches from the nearest wall, or high on a wall, 4-12 inches from the ceiling. This 4-inch minimum is important to keep alarms out of possible "dead air" spaces, because hot air is turbulent and may bounce so much it misses spots near a surface. Installing alarms near a window, door or fireplace is not recommended because drafts could detour smoke away from the unit. In rooms where the ceiling has an extremely high point, such as in vaulted ceilings, mount the alarm at or near the ceiling's highest point."

Additional Guidelines for Installation

- Wired systems should not be connected to a circuit that could be turned off with a wall switch.
- Plug-in systems should have a restraining device at the outlet to prevent the plug from accidentally coming loose.
- Hard-wired systems should be installed by a qualified electrician.
- Do not install the smoke detector near windows, doors or forced-air registers where air flow would interfere with the operation of the detector. Such as the kitchen or above a ceiling fan.
- It's suggested but not required that if your unit has gas fired appliances, i.e. furnace, water heater stove etc, a carbon monoxide detector should be installed in close proximity of those appliances. A combination smoke detector / carbon monoxide detector is acceptable.

