



SMOKE & CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM **REQUIREMENTS**

For Residential Additions, Alterations and Repairs

The City of
West Des Moines

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The International Residential Code (IRC) requires that Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms shall be installed within a dwelling unit *per current code requirements* when an Addition, Alteration or Repair requiring a Building Permit is issued for a property, including Seasonal and Screened Porches. Exceptions to this requirement include roofing, siding, windows, decks and plumbing or mechanical work.

Smoke Alarms shall comply with NFPA 72, be listed in accordance with UL 217 and installed per the manufacturer's installation instructions.

The required locations are as follows:

- 1) In each sleeping room.
- 2) Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
- 3) On each story of the dwelling, including basements and habitable attics.
- 4) At least 3' horizontally from the doorway of a bathroom with a shower/tub.
(To prevent false alarms)

Carbon Monoxide Alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034. Combination CO and smoke alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034 and UL 217. Alarms shall be installed per the manufacturer's installation instructions.

The required locations are as follows:

- 1) Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
(To prevent false alarms, the unit should be a minimum of 3 feet horizontally from the doorway of a bathroom that has a shower or tub).
- 2) Where a fuel-burning appliance (i.e.: fireplace) is located in a bedroom or its attached bathroom, a CO alarm shall be installed within the bedroom.

- All alarms should receive their primary power from the building wiring when possible.
- New alarms are required to be sealed 10 year battery powered when installed in conjunction with Additions, Modifications or Repairs to an existing dwelling structure when the scope of the work does not permit a wired connection.