# Guidelines For Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements

## Massachusetts – Residential Dwelling Units

|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|

## All Smoke Alarms Shall Be Ceiling Mounted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smoke Alarm Power Supply:</th>
<th>Battery or Hardwired</th>
<th>Hardwired, interconnected</th>
<th>Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup</th>
<th>Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup</th>
<th>Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup</th>
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</thead>
</table>

## Type of Smoke Alarm Technology: (Photoelectric or Ionization)

- On the same level, if a required detector is **More Than 20 ft.** from a kitchen or full bathroom doorway it shall be:
  - Either: a **Dual Detector** OR One Photoelectric AND One Ionization alarm
  - Photoelectric OR Ionization
  - Photoelectric OR Ionization
  - Photoelectric OR Dual Detector*
  - Photoelectric Only

- On the same level, if a required detector is **Within 20 ft.** of a kitchen or full bathroom doorway it shall be:
  - Photoelectric Only
  - Photoelectric OR Ionization
  - Photoelectric Only
  - Photoelectric Only

## Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm Power Supply & Placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Battery or Plug-In w/battery backup</th>
<th>Hardwired, interconnected w/battery backup</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allowed</td>
<td>Allowed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Alarm Placement: A CO alarm shall be located on each habitable level, including finished portions of basements and attics. A CO alarm shall be placed in the hallway **OUTSIDE** each separate sleeping area and located no farther than 10 ft. from ANY bedroom door.

## Smoke Alarm Placement

- **One Smoke Alarm is needed for each 1,200 square feet of area, per floor**
- A **Dual Detector** consists of one detector with both photoelectric and ionization technology
- **Low Voltage fire warning systems** are exempt from the dual detector technology requirement
- **Combination Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms** MUST have a Tone and Voice Feature

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This document is a guideline. Please call Fire Prevention if you still have questions.