

Having smoke alarms fitted in your home is essential to keep you and your family safe from fire, but it's important to ensure you test them regularly, keep them clean and replace them when necessary. It's also essential that everyone in the house knows what to do if the alarm does activate.



### **How many do you need?**

You should have at least one on each floor. The best location for them is in the hall at the bottom of the stairs and on the landing of each floor. You should avoid putting them in kitchens and bathrooms.

### **How often should smoke alarms be tested?**

Smoke alarms should be tested on a weekly basis to ensure that they are in good working order. Don't assume that a hard wired smoke alarm doesn't need testing, it is still possible for them to malfunction. You should also clean it every 3 months using a vacuum cleaner with the brush attachment fitted.

### **How often should smoke alarms be replaced?**

Batteries should be replaced every year (unless it's a 10 year alarm), and the full unit should be replaced within 10 years.

### **What should you do if the alarm sounds?**

If your smoke alarm alerts you to a fire in your home you should not attempt to tackle it yourself. Get out of the property as quickly as possible, following a planned escape route. Don't stop to collect anything or get dressed.

Your safety is important to us, in an emergency call **999**



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