

SMOKE ALARM TIPS & TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

Keep your smoke alarms providing effective protection through regular cleaning and testing

What is Your Smoke Alarm Doing?

False Sounding

If you have safely determined there is definitely no fire at the property, press the 'test' or 'hush' button for **5 seconds** and the red LED light will begin to flash. Your alarm will silence and enter a reduced sensitivity reset cycle and then automatically return to normal operation in approx. 10 mins.

Alarm Chirping & Flashing Every 40secs

If the alarm is flashing and chirping, this indicates the battery is low and requires replacement.

Disarming Your Nuisance Alarm

If the smoke alarm that has been identified as being the nuisance alarm cannot be silenced; as a last resort, the smoke alarm has the ability to be deactivated.

For smoke alarms with Replaceable batteries:

Remove smoke alarm from hardwired power supply (if hardwired) and remove the battery.

For smoke alarms with Non-Replaceable batteries:

The smoke alarm will need to be unhinged, twisted or slid off the ceiling. Most smoke alarms will have a switch that can be slid to an OFF position in order to deactivate the smoke alarm.

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POSSIBLE CAUSES



Routine Maintenance

Weekly: Testing

Test your smoke alarms by pushing the 'Test' button on the cover of the alarm unit. This will sound the alarm if the electrical circuit, alarm and battery are working correctly. If no alarm sounds, the unit has a defective battery or another fault that needs immediate attention.

Monthly: Cleaning

Use a vacuum cleaner with a soft brush to vacuum all sides and the cover of the alarm.



Insects, Dust & Dirt

Tiny insects can nest in alarms and cause false triggering. Dust and dirt has the same effect, so it's important to keep them as clean as possible.

Use a vacuum cleaner with a soft brush to vacuum the sides, cover and inside the cover. If you have a vacuum that won't reach, you can also use a hairdryer on a cool setting.



Power Interruptions

Smoke alarms may be activated when power is interrupted. Power interruptions can occur when electricity providers switch grids in the early hours of the morning, there is an electricity spike or electricity is interfered via a shared circuit.

The installation of an EMI or ripple single filter may help to reduce electrical interference.



Battery

The smoke alarm will chirp at regular intervals (around every 40 secs) when the battery is weak and needs replacing. We can come out to you and change over the batteries or assess whether the smoke alarm unit itself needs replacing, if it is a non-replaceable battery model.



Steam, Fumes & Air Movement

Smoke alarms that are too close to the kitchen, bathroom or laundry areas can trigger false alarms due to cooking fumes and steam. Additionally, drafts from windows, air conditioning units, ducts or fans can interfere with the performance of smoke alarm sensors.

We can assist you by professionally installing your smoke alarms, ensuring placement at an appropriate distance away from these areas to limit this happening.



Extreme Humidity

Additional design measures have been taken to ensure smoke alarm reliability in humid conditions. However, in extreme humidity, the alarm can confuse the dense humid air particles for smoke particles and this may cause false alarms. Use a hairdryer to dry any moisture build up.

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