

Security Detectors

1. My smoke alarm keeps chirping and beeping. Why does my smoke alarm chirp intermittently?

It is likely that the reason your smoke alarm keeps chirping and beeping is that the battery is low. Whenever your smoke alarm keeps chirping, replace the battery immediately.

- A different device or appliance such as a security system, monitor, carbon monoxide alarm, or other device which has a similar low battery or alert signal.
- Some of the same factors that cause unwanted alarms can cause intermittent alarms: dust and insects in the alarm or power interruptions in hardwired alarms.
- Improper wiring on AC or AC/DC smoke alarms. AC alarms will chirp every 5 seconds if the interconnect wire is grounded. The orange interconnect wire should NEVER be grounded; it should only be used to interconnect other smoke alarms or compatible devices.

2. My smoke alarm keeps chirping, even with a new battery. What is causing this?

There are a number of possible causes for your smoke alarm to keep chirping even with a new battery.

- It is possible that your smoke alarm "silence" button was pushed by mistake. The alarm will now "chirp" once a minute for up to 15 minutes before resetting.
- Are you sure it's the smoke alarm? Funny to ask, but other devices have similar low battery chirps or warning tones.
- Your "new" batteries may not be fresh. If batteries are stored, especially in cold areas like refrigerators, they lose their charge more quickly. Always check the freshness date on the package when buying new batteries.

Keep plenty of replacement batteries on hand so that you are sure to always be protected by your smoke alarms.

3. Why doesn't my smoke alarm sound when I push the test button?

It is important that you frequently test your smoke alarms. When you are testing your smoke alarm, there are a number of reasons why the alarm might not sound:

- You may not be holding the test button down long enough. Try holding it down for up to 10 seconds (20 seconds on photoelectric models).
- Your battery may not be installed properly or snapped all the way in place. Even if the alarm sounded briefly when the battery touched the terminals, you still need to make sure it is snapped securely in place.

If the battery is loose, it cannot power the smoke alarm properly. After installing new batteries, be sure to test your smoke detector.

- Your AC power may not be on. AC and AC/DC units will have a power indicator light (red or green) that shines continuously when they are receiving electrical power.
- If you have a 10-Year model, the smoke alarm may not have been properly activated. If the tab broke away before the alarm was activated, you can use a toothpick to move the switch over to test the alarm.

4. Why does my smoke alarm go off when I install a battery or turn on the AC power?

It is normal for smoke alarms to go off and sound briefly (up to 5-10 seconds) when you install a new battery or when they are powered up. If the alarm continues to go off and no smoke is present, the cause may be one of the following:

- There may be insufficient battery power, try new batteries.
- Problems with voltage or insufficient electrical power (brown out) may cause a continuous weak sounding alarm. For AC or AC/DC models, temporarily disconnect power at the service panel until the brown out is over. If you do not restore the AC power, your smoke alarms cannot warn you of a fire.
- Incompatible warning device. If an incompatible alarm or auxiliary device is linked into a series of AC or AC/DC smoke alarms it may cause the system inadvertently go off.

5. How many smoke alarms should I have in my home?

Minimum coverage for Smoke Alarms, as recommended by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), is one Smoke Alarm on every floor, in every sleeping area, and in every bedroom (See “Regulatory Information for Smoke Alarms” for details on the NFPA recommendations within the user’s manual).

6. How many Carbon monoxide alarms should I have in my home?

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends that you should have a carbon monoxide alarm centrally located outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom. For added protection, you should have additional carbon monoxide alarms in each separate bedroom and on every level of your house, including the basement.

Some states now require that you have a carbon monoxide alarm in each bedroom of the house. If you install only one carbon monoxide alarm in your home, locate it near or in your bedroom.

7. What's difference between the smoke alarm sounding and the carbon monoxide alarm sounding?

Understanding your alarm is very important especially when in danger. Since this alarm features both Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detection, it is critical to know which is happening in your home.

When there is a high carbon monoxide level, your alarm will beep four (4) times and will also display a red LED hue. When the alarm detects a fire in your home, the alarm will beep three (3) times and will display a red LED hue.

In addition to this, when your alarms are wirelessly interconnected, the voice and location feature will tell you not only what type of emergency it is (smoke or CO) but also the location of the danger.

8. What is the proper placement of smoke alarms?

It is important that you have the proper placement for your smoke alarms. Install your alarms at least 20 feet from appliances like furnaces and ovens, which produce combustion particles. Alarms should be at least 10 feet from high humidity areas like showers and laundry rooms, and at least 3 feet from heat/AC vents. Be sure to install a smoke alarm in each bedroom, one at the top of each stairwell, and one on every level.

9. How long will the battery last in my smoke alarm?

Actual battery service life depends on the particular design of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm and the environment in which it is installed. All kinds of alarm batteries specified in the users manual are acceptable replacement batteries. Regardless of the manufacturer's suggested battery life, you **MUST** replace the batteries immediately once the unit starts "chirping" (the "low battery warning").

It is recommended that you change the batteries in your alarms when you change your clocks for daylight saving time. Also consider replacing your current alarms with 10-Year Life alarms that never require a costly battery replacement for the ten year life of the alarm.

10. What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless gas that is a common by-product of incomplete combustion. Carbon monoxide is produced when fossil fuels like wood, coal, charcoal, gasoline, kerosene, natural gas, or oil burn. Because of the way that your body reacts to carbon monoxide, it is a deadly gas that must be avoided to prevent poisoning.

11. Where should I install carbon monoxide alarms? What is proper carbon monoxide alarm placement?

It is very important to install carbon monoxide alarms near or in each separate sleeping area. Many states now require that a carbon monoxide alarm is placed in each bedroom. For added protection, placement of an additional carbon monoxide alarm at least 15-20 feet away from the furnace or fuel burning heat sources is recommended.

Also, install carbon monoxide alarms at least 10 feet from sources of humidity like bathrooms and showers. In two story houses, install one carbon monoxide alarm on each level of the home. If you have a basement, carbon monoxide alarm placement is recommended at the top of the basement stairs.

12. Is there anywhere I shouldn't install carbon monoxide alarms?

Do not install carbon monoxide alarms in garages, kitchens, furnace rooms, or in any extremely dusty, dirty, humid, or greasy areas. Do not install alarms in direct sunlight, or areas subjected to temperature extremes. These include unconditioned crawl spaces, unfinished attics, un-insulated or poorly insulated ceilings, and porches.

Carbon monoxide alarms should not be installed in outlets covered by curtains or other obstructions. Do not install in turbulent air-near ceiling fans, heat vents, air conditioners, fresh air returns, or open windows. Blowing air may prevent carbon monoxide from reaching the CO sensors.

13. Where should I install carbon monoxide alarms and in particular, how high off the floor?

Carbon monoxide weighs about the same as air and distributes evenly throughout the room/house. When you decide where to install a carbon monoxide alarm, choose a location where the carbon monoxide alarm will stay clean and out of the way of children or pets. It is important to refer to your user's manual for specific installation requirements as to where to install your carbon monoxide alarm.

14. What causes carbon monoxide and what are some common sources of carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a by-product of incomplete combustion. Common causes of carbon monoxide production can be gas or oil appliances like a furnace, clothes dryer, range, oven, water heater, or space heaters that are not working properly.

When appliances and vents work properly, and there is enough fresh air in your home to allow for complete combustion. In these typical conditions, trace amounts of CO produced by these sources are typically not dangerous. However, there are common conditions that can cause CO levels to rise quickly:

- Appliance malfunction, i.e. the heat exchanger on your furnace cracks
- Vent, flue, or chimney is blocked by debris or even snow
- Fireplace, wood burning stove, charcoal grill or other source of burning material is not properly vented
- Vehicle is left running in an attached garage and carbon monoxide seeps into the house
- Several appliances running at the same time and competing for limited fresh air can be a cause of carbon monoxide buildup. This condition can result in incomplete combustion and produce CO, even if all appliances are in good working condition.

15. Is carbon monoxide heavier than air? What is the diffusion of carbon monoxide in air?

Carbon monoxide is not heavier than air. The diffusion of carbon monoxide in air is relatively even, meaning that a source of carbon monoxide can distribute the gas evenly throughout the room and house.

When installing a carbon monoxide alarm, choose a location where the alarm will stay clean, and out of the way of children or pets. See User's Manual for specific installation requirements.

16. What are the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning?

The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are important to be able to recognize. If you suspect that you or someone else are experiencing sickness as the result of exposure to carbon monoxide, get to a well-ventilated area immediately and contact emergency services.

Symptoms of mild carbon exposure can include: slight headache, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, flu-like symptoms. Symptoms of medium carbon monoxide exposure can include: throbbing headache, drowsiness, confusion, fast heart rate. Symptoms of high exposure to carbon monoxide can include: convulsions, unconsciousness, heart and lung failure. Exposure can lead to brain damage and death.

17. Why is carbon monoxide dangerous? What is the cause of carbon monoxide poisoning?

Carbon monoxide can be extremely dangerous because CO robs your blood of oxygen. When you inhale carbon monoxide, it bonds with the hemoglobin in your blood, displacing life-giving oxygen. This produces a toxic compound in your blood called "Carboxyhemoglobin" (COHb) which is the source of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Over time, exposure to CO can make you feel sick or worse, victims exposed to sufficiently high levels of carbon monoxide can suffer brain damage, or even die. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), 1500 people die each year because of carbon monoxide poisoning, and another 10,000 become ill.

Carbon monoxide is dangerous since you can't see, smell, or taste the gas. Because you can't sense it, carbon monoxide can poison you before you even know it's there.

18. Can your system act as a deterrent to intruders?

Yes. Wolf-Guard Indoor siren can be purchased separately and added your Wolf-Guard system to deter potential intruders. Indoor can be activated remotely from Wolf-Guard app. You can also customize the sirens so that they are automatically triggered when motion is detected.

19. Sensors seem not to be triggered?

There are different settings for the sensors. If a sensor is set in the home mode and home mode is enabled on the system, then the system will not sound the alarm when these sensors are triggered.