



Smoke Alarm Checklist

Once a week



Test the alarm by pushing the test button with a broom handle to ensure it beeps.



Dust the alarm with a vacuum cleaner brush.

Once a year



Change the batteries using the battery type listed on the alarm. Do it when you adjust your clock for daylight saving.

**Remember, a smoke alarm that's not working is useless.
Protect yourself. Check your smoke alarm regularly.**

Some common causes of housefire:

- ☐ cooking left unattended on the stove
- ☐ clothes drying too close to heaters and fires
 - ☐ smoking in bed
- ☐ old and poorly maintained electrical appliances
- ☐ electric blankets left on high for extended periods



PO Box 701, Mt Waverley 3149
Ph: (03) 9262 8444 Fax: (03) 9264 6200

July 1997

Making sure you're safe



Fires can happen at any time, in any home. You need to ensure you're prepared, in case the 'unthinkable' happens to you.

Most people caught in a house fire die as a result of breathing in smoke and fumes while sleeping.

Installing smoke alarms provides an early warning by waking sleeping home occupants. Smoke alarms can give you the vital time you need to get out alive.

Your chances of survival are twice as good when smoke alarms are installed in your home and they are checked and cleaned regularly.

Has your smoke alarm been checked lately?

A smoke alarm that doesn't work is useless — just like an insurance policy that has expired. To ensure your smoke alarm is working properly, weekly checking and cleaning is essential. If needed, ask a relative, friend, neighbour, home help or carer to assist you. The Smoke Alarm Checklist over the page will help. Remember, your safety depends on it.

Are smoke alarms expensive?

A battery operated smoke alarm should cost between \$10 and \$20. To ensure a quality product look for one that is made to the Australian standard AS 3786.

Where do you buy them?

They are available in hardware, electrical and variety stores, and many supermarkets.

Are they difficult to install?

Smoke alarms are easy to install. A family member or carer will find it quick and simple to install smoke alarms in your home. Only a screwdriver is required.

Is one smoke alarm enough?

To provide the best protection, a smoke alarm should be installed outside each sleeping area. If you sleep with the door closed, a smoke alarm should also be installed in your bedroom. Occupants of multi-storey homes should install a smoke alarm on each level.

***Protect yourself. Install
a smoke alarm and
check it regularly.***

