

HARDWIRED SMOKE ALARM GUIDE



Important Information for Your Home and Your Safety

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HARDWIRED AND BATTERY SMOKE ALARMS?



HARDWIRED SMOKE ALARMS

- Connect directly to your home's electrical grid, offering continuous power and are interconnected. If one alarm triggers, they all do.
- Require professional installation by an electrician (initially).
- Some models include battery backups in case of power outages.

VS.

BATTERY-OPERATED SMOKE ALARMS



- Run entirely on batteries.
- Lithium-ion battery smoke alarms are provided by fire departments in Delaware.
- These smoke alarms can be installed by the home owner.



PLEASE NOTE: We will not be altering your existing smoke alarm system in any way. Today, we are here **ONLY** to install brand new equipment that you need, as a member of the deaf and hard of hearing community, so that you will be alerted in the case of fire or carbon monoxide exposure. This information is being provided to you as a courtesy, should you wish to maintain preexisting smoke alarms systems in your home.



HAVE YOU BEEN TOLD BY VISITORS THAT YOUR OLD SMOKE ALARM IS CHIRPING AND YOU WANT TO REPLACE IT?

Hardwired smoke alarms have the same lifespan as battery smoke alarms. They must be replaced if they are over 10 years old or if they still chirp after changing the backup battery.

You can buy hardwired smoke alarm replacements at major home improvement stores like The Home Depot, Lowe's, Walmart, or Target, both online and in-store. Make sure to buy the right replacement. You should take the old/malfunctioning alarm with you to the store. It is important to select a matching brand so you can reuse the existing mounting plate/plug and ensure it is compatible with the other interconnected alarms in your home.



**WORKING SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES.
TEST MONTHLY. REPLACE EVERY 10 YEARS.**

Thank you for helping keep our community safe!





✓ DOES THE NEW SMOKE ALARM FIT ON THE EXISTING MOUNTING PLATE ON CEILING/WALL?

IF IT DOES FIT ON THE EXISTING MOUNTING PLATE...

- 1 Connect the wiring harness plug in ceiling/wall into the back of the new smoke alarm.
- 2 If it has a battery backup be sure to remove the battery pull-tab to activate.
- 3 Align the smoke alarm with the mounting plate and twist clockwise until it locks.
- 4 Restore power and look for a solid green LED light on the smoke alarm, indicating AC power.
- 5 Press and hold the test button to ensure it functions and triggers other connected smoke alarms.



✗ IF IT DOESN'T FIT ON THE EXISTING MOUNTING PLATE...

- 1 Unscrew the old mounting plate from the ceiling/wall.
- 2 Screw the new mounting plate into place, using the same holes.
- 3 Then connect the wiring harness plug in ceiling/wall into the back of the new smoke alarm.
- 4 If it has a battery backup, be sure to remove the battery pull-tab to activate.
- 5 Align the smoke alarm with the mounting plate and twist clockwise until it locks.
- 6 Restore power and look for a solid green LED light on the smoke alarm, indicating AC power. Press and hold the test button to ensure it functions and triggers other connected smoke alarms.



? WHAT IF THE EXISTING WIRING HARNESS IN MY CEILING/WALL DOES NOT FIT INTO BACK OF NEW SMOKE ALARM?

You have two options. You can contact an electrician, or you can connect the wiring harness yourself. Smoke alarms are effective for 10 years, so this is a common occurrence as models are discontinued over time.



HOW DO I INSTALL THE NEW WIRING HARNESS MYSELF?

- 1 Confirm power is OFF.
- 2 Use wire cutters to remove the old plug (usually white plastic) on the existing wiring harness in ceiling/wall. Once removed, this will leave three colored wires exposed.
- 3 Match the three exposed wires in ceiling/wall to the wire colors on the new wiring harness. Black to Black (Hot), White to White (Neutral), and Red to Red/Yellow (Interconnect).
- 4 Twist the bare wire ends together and secure them tightly with wire nuts or electrical tape.
- 5 Then connect the new wiring harness plug in ceiling/wall into the back of the new smoke alarm.
- 6 If it has a battery backup, be sure to remove the battery pull-tab to activate.
- 7 Align the smoke alarm with the mounting plate and twist clockwise until it locks. Restore power and look for a solid green LED light on the smoke alarm, indicating AC power. Press and hold the test button to ensure it functions and triggers other connected smoke alarms.

