

Responsibilities of Property Owners and Tenants

Property owners must provide smoke alarms that are in good working order, while tenants are responsible for testing and maintaining them and replacing the batteries, when applicable.

Learn more ?

- For more information, contact your municipality or the *Régie du Bâtiment du Québec (RBQ)*. The RBQ administers the *Safety Code*, which includes requirements and obligations related to fire safety
- These obligations apply, among others, to owners of buildings with more than two storeys and more than eight dwelling units
- Are you subject to these regulations? To learn more about your obligations, visit: rbq.gouv.qc.ca/securite



When the smoke alarm sounds:

GET OUT!

Smoke is deadly and spreads quickly. Every second counts—you have less than three minutes to evacuate!



- Alert your children and other occupants immediately.
- Leave the house without wasting any time.
- Go to the designated meeting point outside and make sure everyone is accounted for.
- **Call 9-1-1 once you are outside.**

The Golden Rule

Never go back inside a building if there is smoke or if it is on fire.

Use the following formula to increase your chances of escaping a fire safely:

Check the
smoke alarms

+

Prepare an
evacuation
plan

+

Practice your
evacuation

**Increase your chances of
escaping a fire safely.**

For more information, contact your municipality's fire department or visit: securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca.

Sécurité publique
Québec



(2014-08)

Smoke detectors

SAVE LIVES!

Québec

MRC **PONTIAC**
OUTAOUAIS



Do you have

A smoke detector?



Deadly fires most often occur at night. Think about it! You need a working smoke alarm to wake you up!

- **Install smoke alarms and check that they are working properly.**

Remember, fires **NEVER** sleep!



Choosing, Installing, and Testing Your Smoke Alarms

1. Which Smoke Alarm Should You Choose?

Battery

- Choose a smoke alarm with a long-life battery.



Electric

- Choose a model with a **backup battery** in case of a power outage.
- **Interconnected** smoke alarms can save precious seconds when evacuating. No matter where the fire starts, they all sound at the same time!

A smoke alarm does not detect carbon monoxide (CO), a deadly gas. If your home has permanently installed fuel-burning appliances (e.g., a wood stove or oil furnace) or an attached garage, get both types of alarms or a combination alarm that detects both smoke and carbon monoxide.

Look for these logos

Smoke alarm :



Carbon Monoxide Alarm:



These logos ensure that your alarms meet the latest Canadian safety standards.

2. Where Should They Be Installed

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom and on every level of the home (hallways and common areas), including the basement.
- Place your smoke alarms away from cooking appliances, air vents, and bathrooms.



For people who are hard of hearing, install smoke alarms equipped with a strobe light. There are also vibrating alarm devices designed to be placed under a pillow or bed.



3. How to Test Them ?

Once a month

- Check the battery by pressing the test button; an audible alarm should sound. If there is no sound, replace the battery or replace the smoke alarm if it is defective.



Only a functioning alarm makes noise

Une fois par année

- Whether battery-operated or hardwired, test your smoke alarm's ability to detect smoke by extinguishing a candle near it. If it does not sound, replace it.

Most companies that provide monitored alarm services perform annual maintenance and testing upon request. Ask for more information!

They don't last forever...

- A smoke alarm has a lifespan of **10 years**.
- A carbon monoxide alarm has a lifespan of **5 to 10 years** from the date it is activated. Check the manufacturer's instructions.



Check the manufacturing date of your smoke alarms. If the date is missing, replace them today!

Warning !

- Never remove the battery from a smoke alarm or disconnect it, even if it goes off unnecessarily. Instead, use the alarm's silence button.
- Never paint a smoke alarm. If it has been painted, replace it.



Pas d'avertisseur : c'est mortel !