

# Carbon Monoxide Alarms

## Carbon Monoxide Alarms

You can't see or smell carbon monoxide, but at high levels it can kill a person in minutes. If fuel-burning appliances are not working properly or are used incorrectly, dangerous levels of CO can result.

According to the American Medical Association, carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in the United States. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide.

On May 7, 2010, the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act (SB-183) of 2010 was signed into legislation. This act was created due to the alarming statistics related to carbon monoxide poisonings. The need for a carbon monoxide detector in your home is great because a person cannot see or smell carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide devices provide a vital, highly effective, and low-cost protection against carbon monoxide poisoning. Protect your family and install California approved carbon monoxide device in your home today. Do not delay this life saving measure.

## Where required

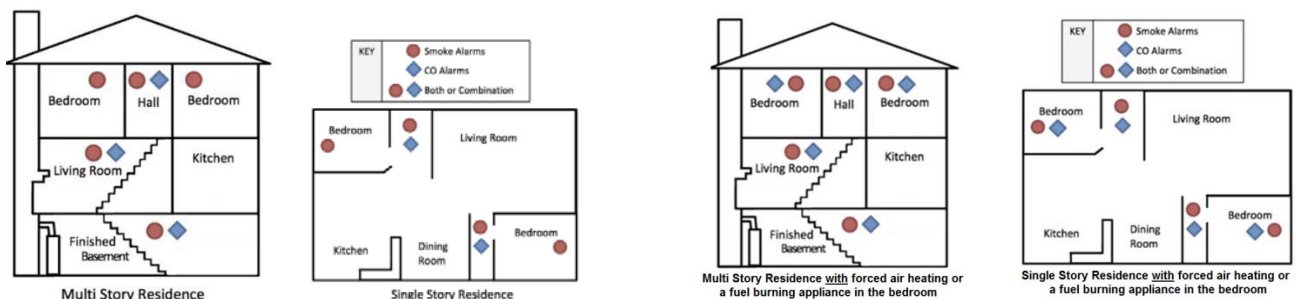
Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in **dwelling units, sleeping units, and classrooms:**

- 1) that contain fuel-burning appliances and fuel-burning fireplaces
- 2) served by a fuel-burning, forced air furnace
- 3) located in buildings that contain fuel-burning appliances or fuel-burning fireplaces
- 4) in buildings with an attached private garage
  - a) **Exceptions:** See San Francisco Fire Code, Section 915 for all exceptions

## Placement

Install carbon monoxide alarms at the following locations:

- 1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom
- 2) On every occupiable level of a dwelling unit, including basements
- 3) Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, CO detection shall be installed within the bedroom.
- 4) Inside sleeping units with fuel burning appliances within the sleeping unit or its attached bathroom, or inside a sleeping unit served by a forced air furnace.
- 5) Mounting location for each carbon monoxide alarm shall be per the manufacturer's instructions.
  - a) **Exceptions:** See San Francisco Fire Code, Section 915 for all exceptions



## It's the Law!

As of July 2013 the San Francisco Fire Code and the Housing Code require that carbon monoxide alarms be installed and maintained in all dwelling units by the property owners. The landlord must promptly repair or replace inoperable carbon monoxide alarms upon request. All carbon monoxide alarms shall be approved for use by the California State Fire Marshal and shall be replaced per the manufacturer's requirements. [http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/pdf/bml/List\\_CSFM\\_Approved.pdf](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/pdf/bml/List_CSFM_Approved.pdf)