

Installation of Carbon Monoxide Alarm

Step 1: Install and Maintain Carbon Monoxide Alarms



Avoid the monster that lurks

- Install and maintain carbon monoxide (CO) alarms outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Modern CO alarms can be placed on the ceiling or wall. Refer to the device instructions when installing.
- Test CO alarms monthly by pressing the test button. Working alarms save lives!
- Check the manufacture date on the back of the device. Replace devices and batteries according to manufacturer instructions.



Step 2: Ensure Proper Ventilation



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- Never use an oven or stovetop to heat your home.
- Always run generators outdoors in a well-ventilated space, at least 20ft from any building or opening.
- Ensure proper ventilation for all fuel-burning appliances, including fireplaces, water heaters, furnaces, and dryers.
- Keep vents and chimneys clear of debris and check for any gaps, leaks, or rust.
- Never leave the car running in the garage.
- Always use barbecue grills outside, away from all doors, windows, vents, and any building openings.





Step 3: Regular Professional Inspections

Avoid the monster that lurks

- Have furnaces, water heaters, fireplaces, and other fuel-burning equipment appliances inspected by a qualified professional annually. This includes checking the heat exchanger for cracks and ensuring the burner area is clean.
- Have converted equipment (e.g., from one fuel type to another) checked by a qualified technician after the conversion.



Step 4: If Your Alarm Goes Off

Avoid the monster that lurks

- Do not ignore the alarm. Assume it indicates unsafe levels of carbon monoxide.
- Evacuate immediately. All people and pets should quickly get outside to fresh air. Leave windows and doors as-is to help fire departments use their meters to locate the CO source.
- Call 911. Report the incident and any symptoms of CO poisoning (headache, confusion, dizziness, nausea, etc.)
- Do not re-enter the building until the fire department has cleared it as safe. Even if the alarm stops, the source may still be producing carbon monoxide.

