



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
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Massachusetts General Law Chapter 148 Sec. 26F and 26F1/2

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Requirements for 1&2 Family Dwellings

Smoke Detectors:

- All smoke detectors shall be mounted on the ceiling per manufacturer recommendations.
- One smoke detector for every 1200 sq. ft. of living space
- A minimum of one smoke detector required on every habitable level and one detector in the basement within 5 ft. of all stairways.
- One smoke detector outside of each separate sleeping area. (Also inside bedroom on new construction or renovation).
- If a bedroom is located off of a kitchen, the smoke detector shall be located inside the bedroom.
- One smoke detector on the ceiling of **all** stairways on **all** floor levels.
- If a smoke detector must be located within 20 ft. of a kitchen or bathroom the smoke detector must be a photoelectric detector.
- If a smoke detector is located over 20 ft. from a kitchen or bathroom it must be dual type photoelectric/ionization or separate detectors.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors:

- All carbon monoxide detectors shall be mounted per manufacturer recommendations.
- A minimum of one CO detector on every level including the basement.
- The CO detector must be located within 10 ft. of every bedroom.
- Combination smoke/carbon monoxide detectors are acceptable.
- If a combination detector is used it must be the speaking type.
- Plug in carbon monoxide devices may be used if smoke detectors are hard wired.

***The Fire Prevention Bureau may be contacted for any assistance needed.**