

# Types Of Alarm

## Optical Smoke Alarm

Best for detecting slow, smouldering fires. Optical smoke alarms should be used in living rooms, circulation areas and escape routes as well as in bedrooms.

## Heat Alarm

Reacts to heat and is resistant to kitchen fumes such as burnt toast. Heat alarms should be used in kitchen areas as other sensor types are more likely to go into alarm.

## Hard of Hearing Alarm

These alarms connect to an optical or heat alarm and will alert a person who is deaf or hard of hearing by activating a strobe light and a vibration pad.



On average **25 people** die each year in fires in Ireland.

According to the latest Census there are **over 70,000** Irish homes with no smoke alarm fitted!

# Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives

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Did you know that the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage provide **free smoke alarms** and units for the **hard of hearing** to more vulnerable members in our society through the Community Smoke Alarm Scheme? Contact your local fire authority to find out more information or contact The National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management through the details below:

 [www.fireireland.ie](http://www.fireireland.ie)

 [@FireSafetyIre](https://twitter.com/FireSafetyIre)

 [Fire Safety Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/FireSafetyIreland)

 [Fire Safety Ireland](https://www.youtube.com/FireSafetyIreland)

Telephone: +353 1 888 2000  
Email: [firesafety@housing.gov.ie](mailto:firesafety@housing.gov.ie)

Custom House, Dublin, D01 W6X0



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Government of Ireland

# Smoke & Heat Alarms



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## Test Your Alarm

To make sure your smoke alarm works well when you need it:

- ✓ Test the alarm once a week – push and hold the test button until it beeps.
- ✓ Change the battery once a year.
- ✓ Every six months, vacuum and brush the casing to get rid of dust.
- ✓ Replace the smoke alarm after ten years.



In as little as **3 minutes** you could die from smoke inhalation.

A **working** Smoke Alarm can save your life.

**fire safety**  
Be on your guard

## How Many Smoke Alarms Do You Need?

- Fit a smoke alarm in every room (except the bathroom and garage) to fully protect your home.
- Fit a heat alarm in the kitchen.
- It is essential that smoke alarms are fitted in the hall and landing of every home.
- Utility room fires have increased. Fit a smoke alarm in your utility.



## Where Do I Fit Alarms?

- On the ceiling as close to the centre room as you can.
- Ensure you can hear the smoke alarm at night with the door closed.

## In An Emergency Call 999 or 112

- Ask for the fire service.
- Speak calmly and clearly.
- Give your address and phone number. If you are calling on your mobile, say what county you are in.
- Know your Eircode.
- Only hang up when the operator tells you to.

## Fire Safety Check

A **fire safety check** only takes a few minutes, but it could mean the difference between life and death. Make it part of your routine before you go to bed.

### Every Night

- ✓ Turn off gas appliances
- ✓ Put out candles and naked flames
- ✓ Place a spark guard in front of open fires
- ✓ Empty all ashtrays
- ✓ Keep your way out completely clear
- ✓ Close all doors

