

# YOUR GUIDE TO SMOKE ALARM LEGISLATION



## New installations

Has this new home or significant renovation had a building development approval made on or after 1 January 2017?

YES

Install smoke alarms:

- In every bedroom
- In hallways leading to bedrooms
- For bedrooms not accessed by a hallway, between the bedroom and the rest of the house, and
- On every storey of a dwelling without a bedroom, in the most likely path of travel to an exit to outside the dwelling, from any place in the storey.

Smoke alarms must be:

- Hard wired
- Interconnected to all other smoke alarms, and
- Photoelectric only.

NO

Install smoke alarms:

- In hallways leading to bedrooms
- For bedrooms not accessed by a hallway, between the bedroom and the rest of the house, and
- On every storey of a dwelling without a bedroom, at least one in the most likely path of travel to an exit to outside the dwelling, from any place in the storey.

Smoke alarms must be:

- Hard wired
- Interconnected to all other smoke alarms, and
- Photoelectric only.

## Rental properties/homes sold

Is the date on or after 1 January 2022?

YES

Has a contract for sale or a new/renewed rental tenancy agreement been entered into?

YES

Install smoke alarms:

- In every bedroom
- In hallways leading to bedrooms
- For bedrooms not accessed by a hallway, between the bedroom and the rest of the house, and
- On every storey of a dwelling without a bedroom (in the most likely path of travel to an exit to outside the dwelling, from any place in the storey).

Smoke alarms must:

- Remain hard wired if already hard wired
- Additional alarms may be hard wired or powered by a 10-year lifespan battery
- Interconnected to all other smoke alarms, and
- Photoelectric only.

NO

Are the existing alarms working and within 10 years of the date of manufacture?

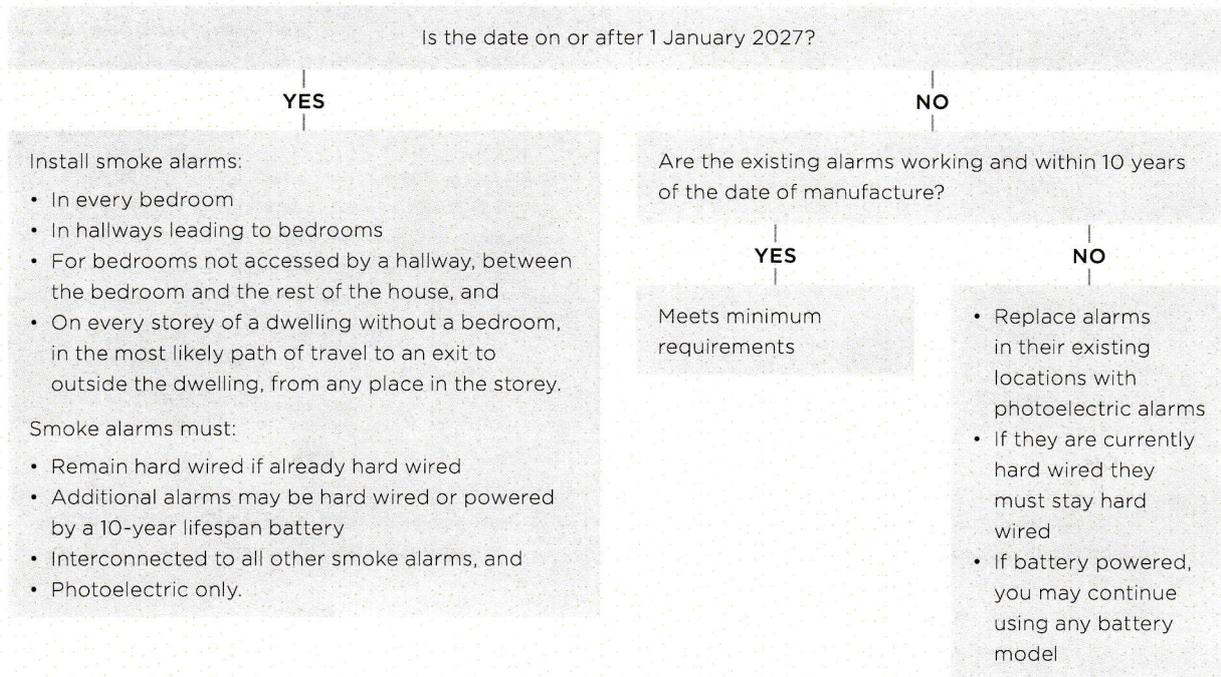
YES

Meets minimum requirements

NO

- Replace alarms in their existing locations with photoelectric alarms
- If they are currently hard wired they must stay hard wired
- If battery powered, you may continue using any battery model

## Existing owner occupied homes



## Where to install smoke alarms

- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling if practicable (NOTE: this is the preferred location).
- If not, then install the smoke alarm on the underside of an exposed joist or beam which has a depth of no more than 300mm when measured from the ceiling.
- Otherwise, smoke alarms can be installed on a wall in an area that is between 100mm and 300mm from the ceiling and more than 300mm from the corner of two walls.
- If the smoke alarm is installed on a ceiling that slopes, it must be in an area of the ceiling that is between 500mm and 1500mm from the apex of the ceiling.

## Restricted locations

- When on a ceiling, within 300mm of the corner of a ceiling and the wall.
- Within 300mm of a light fitting.
- Within 400mm of an opening supplying air from an air conditioner or forced air ventilation.
- Within 400mm of the blades of a ceiling fan.

### CONTACT US

For more information, contact Master Electricians Australia's expert Technical Team. As industry experts they can answer your tough questions so you can get on with the job at hand. Call the technical hotline on **1300 889 198**.



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