

Smoke and CO Alarm Replace-By Tracker

One line per alarm. Find the manufacture date on the back or side of each alarm, write the replace-by date, and tick a box each month after you press the test button.

- ### SMOKE ALARMS: THE 10-YEAR RULE

 - Replace every smoke alarm **10 years from the date of manufacture**, not the purchase date (NFPA, USFA).
 - Can't find a date? Baltimore County's fire marshal says the alarm needs replacing.
 - Chirping that keeps going after a new battery means the alarm is at end of life (NFPA).
- ### CO ALARMS: FOLLOW THE MAKER

 - NFPA: test CO alarms at least monthly and replace them **according to the manufacturer's instructions**. Kidde, for example, lists a 7- or 10-year life depending on the model.
 - CO alarm sounds? Get to fresh air first, then call for help (NFPA).
 - Combination smoke/CO alarm: replace it at the end-of-life signal or 10 years from manufacture, whichever comes first (Knightdale, NC Fire Dept.).

Location	Type smoke / CO / combo	Power 9-volt, sealed 10-yr, hardwired	Made (date on back)	Replace by	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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- ### Batteries (USFA)

 - 9-volt alarms:** test monthly, replace batteries at least once a year, replace the alarm every 10 years.
 - Sealed 10-year battery:** test monthly; replace the whole alarm per the manufacturer's instructions.
 - Hardwired:** test monthly, replace the backup battery at least once a year, replace the alarm every 10 years. Only qualified electricians should install hardwired alarms.
- ### Know the sounds (NFPA)

 - 3 loud beeps, repeating:** smoke or fire. Get out, call 911, stay out.
 - 4 beeps and a pause, repeating:** carbon monoxide. Get to fresh air and call 911.
 - 1 chirp every 30 or 60 seconds:** low battery (or end of life if it keeps chirping after a new battery).

Sounds vary by brand: check your alarm's manual.

Cut-out reminders (stick inside a closet door or near the breaker panel)

REPLACE BY

Made: _____

Test monthly · emberandexit.com

REPLACE BY

Made: _____

Test monthly · emberandexit.com

REPLACE BY

Made: _____

Test monthly · emberandexit.com

REPLACE BY

Made: _____

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Sources: NFPA, Smoke Alarm Information and Carbon Monoxide Safety (nfpa.org); NFPA blog, Smoke Alarm Troubleshooting (2022); USFA, Smoke Alarms (usfa.fema.gov); Baltimore County Fire Marshal; Town of Knightdale, NC Fire; Kidde CO alarm support. Check your local code and the alarm's manual: they have the final say.