

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CO

WHAT IS CO?

CO is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas produced when fossil fuels do not burn completely, or are exposed to heat (usually fire). Electrical appliances typically do not produce CO.

These fuels include: Wood, coal, charcoal, oil, natural gas, gasoline, kerosene, and propane.

Common appliances are often sources of CO. If they are not properly maintained, are improperly ventilated, or malfunction, CO levels can rise quickly. CO is a real danger even though homes are more energy efficient. "Air-tight" homes with added insulation, sealed windows, and other weatherproofing can "trap" CO inside.

SYMPTOMS OF CO POISONING

These symptoms are related to CO POISONING and should be discussed with your health care provider.

Mild Exposure: Slight headache, nausea, vomiting, fatigue ("flu-like" symptoms).

Medium Exposure: Throbbing headache, drowsiness, confusion, fast heart rate.

Extreme Exposure: Convulsions, unconsciousness, heart and lung failure.

Exposure to Carbon Monoxide can cause brain damage, death.

IMPORTANT!

The CO Alarm measures exposure to CO over time. It alarms if CO levels are extremely high in a short period of time, or if CO levels reach a certain minimum over a long period of time. The CO Alarm generally sounds an alarm before the onset of symptoms in average, healthy adults. Why is this important? Because you need to be warned of a potential CO problem while you can still react in time. In many reported cases of CO exposure, victims may be aware that they are not feeling well, but become disoriented and can no longer react well enough to exit the building or get help. Also, young children and pets may be the first affected. The average healthy adult might not feel any symptoms when the CO Alarm sounds. However, people with cardiac or respiratory problems, infants, unborn babies, pregnant mothers, or elderly people can be more quickly and severely affected by CO. If you experience even mild symptoms of CO poisoning, consult your doctor immediately!

FINDING THE SOURCE OF CO AFTER AN ALARM

Carbon monoxide is odorless, invisible and tasteless. It is difficult to locate the source of CO after an alarm. These are a few of the factors that can make it difficult to locate sources of CO:

- House well ventilated before the investigator arrives.
- Problem caused by "backdrafting".
- Transient CO problem caused by special circumstances.

Because CO may dissipate by the time an investigator arrives, it may be difficult to locate the source of CO. **BRK Brands, Inc. shall not be obligated to pay for any carbon monoxide investigation or service call.**

POTENTIAL SOURCES OF CO IN THE HOME

Fuel-burning appliances like: portable heater, gas or wood burning fireplace, gas kitchen range or cooktop, gas clothes dryer.

Damaged or insufficient venting: corroded or disconnected vent heater vent pipe, leaking chimney pipe or flue, or cracked heat exchanger, blocked or clogged chimney opening.

Improper use of appliance/device: operating a barbecue grill or vehicle in an enclosed area (like a garage or screened porch).

Transient CO Problems: "transient" or on-again-off-again CO problems can be caused by outdoor conditions and other special circumstances.

The following information can result in transient CO situations:

1. Excessive spillage or reverse venting of fuel appliances caused by outdoor conditions such as:
 - Wind direction and/or velocity, including high, gusty winds. Heavy air in the vent pipes (cold/humid air with extended periods between cycles).
 - Negative pressure caused by the use of exhaust fans.
 - Several appliances running at the same time competing for limited fresh air.
 - Vent pipe connections vibrating loose from clothes dryers, furnaces, or water heaters.
 - Obstructions in or unconventional vent pipe designs which can amplify the above situations.
 2. Extended operation of unvented fuel burning devices (range, oven, fireplace).
 3. Temperature inversions, which can trap exhaust close to the ground.
 4. Car idling in an open or closed attached garage, or near a home.
- These conditions are dangerous because they can trap exhaust in your home. Since these conditions can come and go, they are also hard to recreate during a CO investigation.

HOW CAN I PROTECT MY FAMILY FROM CO POISONING?

A CO Alarm is an excellent means of protection. It monitors the air and sounds a loud alarm before Carbon Monoxide levels become threatening for average, healthy adults.

A CO Alarm is not a substitute for proper maintenance of home appliances.

To help prevent CO problems and reduce the risk of CO poisoning:

- Clean chimneys and flues yearly. Keep them free of debris, leaves, and nests for proper air flow. Also, have a professional check for rust and corrosion, cracks, or separations. These conditions can prevent proper air movement and cause backdrafting. Never "cap" or cover a chimney in any way that would block air flow.
- Test and maintain all fuel-burning equipment annually. Many local gas or oil companies and HVAC companies offer appliance inspections for a nominal fee.
- Make regular visual inspections of all fuel-burning appliances. Check appliances for excessive rust and scaling. Also check the flame on the burner and pilot lights. The flame should be blue. A yellow flame means the unit is not burning completely and CO may be present. Keep the blower door on the furnace closed. Use vents or fans when they are available on all fuel-burning appliances. Make sure appliances are vented to the outside. Do not grill or barbecue indoors, or in garages or on screened porches.
- Check for exhaust backflow from CO sources. Check the draft hood on an operating furnace for a backdraft. Look for cracks on furnace hood or vent pipes.
- Check the house or garage on the other side of shared wall.
- Keep windows and doors open slightly. If you suspect that CO is escaping into your home, open a window or a door. Opening windows or doors can significantly reduce CO levels.

In addition, familiarize yourself with all enclosed materials. Read this manual in its entirety, and make sure you understand what to do if your CO Alarm sounds.

REGULATORY INFORMATION FOR SMOKE/CO ALARMS

REGULATORY INFORMATION FOR CO ALARMS

WHAT LEVELS OF CO CAUSE AN ALARM?

Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Standard UL2034 requires residential CO Alarms to sound when exposed to levels of CO and exposure times as described below. They are measured in parts per million (ppm) or CO over time (in minutes).

UL2034 Required Alarm Points*:

- If the alarm is exposed to 400 ppm of CO, IT MUST ALARM BETWEEN 4 and 15 MINUTES.

- If the alarm is exposed to 150 ppm of CO, IT MUST ALARM BETWEEN 10 and 50 MINUTES.

- If the alarm is exposed to 70 ppm if CO, IT MUST ALARM BETWEEN 60 and 240 MINUTES.

*Approximately 10% COHB exposure at levels of 15% to 95% Relative Humidity (RH).

The unit is designed not to alarm when exposed to a constant level of 30 ppm for 30 days.

IMPORTANT!

CO Alarms are designed to alarm before there is an immediate life threat. Since you cannot see or smell CO, never assume it's not present.

- An exposure to 100 ppm of CO for 20 minutes may not affect average, healthy adults, but after 4 hours the same level may cause cerebral air.

- An exposure to 400 ppm of CO may cause headaches in average, healthy adults after 35 minutes, but can cause death after 2 hours.

Standards: Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Single and Multiple Station carbon monoxide alarms UL2034.

According to Underwriters Laboratories Inc. UL2034, Section 14-2: "Carbon monoxide alarms covered by these requirements are intended to respond to the presence of carbon monoxide from sources such as, but not limited to, exhaust from internal-combustion engines, abnormal operation of fuel-fired appliances, and fireplaces. CO Alarms are intended to alarm at carbon monoxide levels below those that could cause a loss of ability to react to the dangers of Carbon Monoxide exposure." This CO Alarm monitors the air at the Alarm, is designed to alarm before CO levels become life threatening. This allows you precious time to leave the house and correct the problem. This is only possible if the Alarm is located, installed, and maintained as described in this manual.

Gas Detection at Typical Temperature and Humidity Ranges:

The CO Alarm is not formulated to detect CO levels below 30 ppm typically. UL tested for false alarm resistance to Methane (500 ppm), Ethane (500 ppm), Propane (500 ppm), Ethyl Acetate (200 ppm), Isopropyl Alcohol (200 ppm), and Acetone (500 ppm). Values measure gas and vapor concentrations in parts per million.

Audible Alarm: 85dB minimum at 10 feet (3 meters).

Continued...

REGULATORY INFORMATION FOR SMOKE ALARMS

RECOMMENDED LOCATIONS FOR SMOKE ALARMS

Installing Smoke Alarms in Single-Family Residences

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends one Smoke Alarm on every floor, in every sleeping area, and in every bedroom. In new construction, the Smoke Alarms must be AC powered and interconnected. See "Agency Placement Recommendations" for details.

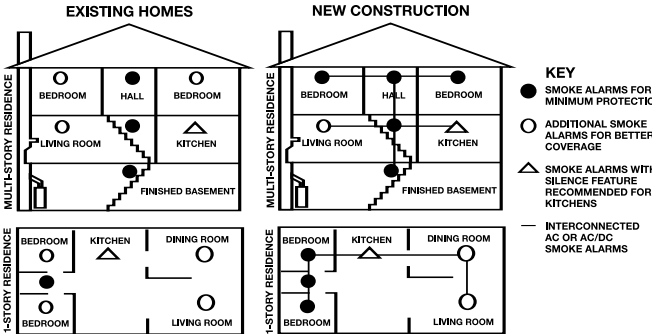
For additional coverage, it is recommended that you install a Smoke Alarm in all rooms, halls, storage areas, finished attics, and basements, where temperatures normally remain between 40° F (4° C) and 100° F (38° C). Make sure no door or other obstruction could keep smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarms.

More specifically, install Smoke Alarms:

- On every level of your home, including finished attics and basements.
- Inside every bedroom, especially if people sleep with the door partly or completely closed.
- In the hall near every sleeping area. If your home has multiple sleeping areas, install a unit in each. If a hall is more than 40 feet long (12 meters), install a unit at each end.
- At the top of the first-to-second floor stairway, and at the bottom of the basement stairway.

IMPORTANT!

Specific requirements for Smoke Alarm installation vary from state to state and from region to region. Consult your local Fire Department for current requirements in your area. It is recommended AC or AC/DC units be interconnected for added protection.



AGENCY PLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPORTANT!

This equipment should be installed in accordance with NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 72 and 101, National Fire Protection Association. One Battery-march Park, Quincy, MA 02269-0101. Additional local building and regulatory codes may apply in your area. Always check compliance requirements before beginning any installation.

NFPA 72 (National Fire Code)

Smoke Alarms shall be installed in each separate sleeping room, outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms and on each additional story of the family living unit, including basements and excluding crawl spaces and unfinished attics.

In new construction, Alarms shall be so arranged that operation of any one Alarm shall cause the operation of all Alarms within the dwelling.

Smoke Detection-Are More Smoke Alarms Desirable?

The required number of Smoke Alarms might not provide reliable early warning protection for those areas that are not covered by a detector. In the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms and on each additional story of the family living unit, including basements and excluding crawl spaces and unfinished attics.

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For this reason, it is recommended that the householder consider the use of additional Smoke Alarms for those areas for increased protection. The additional areas include the basement, bedrooms, dining room, furnace room, kitchen, and hallways not protected by the required Smoke Alarms. The installation of Smoke Alarms in kitchens, attics (finished or unfinished), or garages is not recommended. Negative pressure, such as that in locations occasionally experience conditions that can result in improper operation.

2. Extended operation of unvented fuel burning devices (range, oven, fireplace).

3. Temperature inversions, which can trap exhaust close to the ground.

4. Car idling in an open or closed attached garage, or near a home.

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GENERAL LIMITATIONS OF SMOKE/CO ALARMS

This Smoke/CO Alarm is intended for residential use. It is not intended for use in industrial/appliances where Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recommends experts recommend battery powered Smoke and CO Alarms be used in conjunction with interconnected AC powered Smoke Alarms. For details, see "About Smoke Alarms" for details.

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Smoke/CO Alarms may not be the best choice for your home. Loudness meets or exceeds current UL standards of 85 dB at 10 feet (3 meters). However, if the Smoke/CO Alarm is installed outside the bedroom, it may not wake up a sound sleeper or one who has recently used drugs or has been drinking alcohol. The alarm may not be heard at night when they are sleeping. If children or others do not readily awaken to the sound of the Smoke/CO Alarm, or if there are infants or family members with mobility limitations, make sure that someone is assigned to monitor them in fire and in the event of an emergency. It is recommended that you hold a fire drill while family members are sleeping in order to determine their response to the sound of the Smoke/CO Alarm while sleeping and to determine whether they may need assistance in the event of an emergency.

Smoke/CO Alarms cannot work without power. Battery operated units cannot work if the batteries are missing, disconnected or dead. If the wrong type of batteries are used, or if the batteries are not installed correctly AC units cannot work. If the AC power is cut off for any reason (open fuse or circuit breaker, failure along a power line or at a power station, electrical fire that burns the electrical power lines. Homeowners and renters must insure their lives.

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