

SMOKE DETECTORS

- Nearly 4,000 Americans die every year in residential fires. Most of these deaths are not from heat and flames but from inhaling smoke and toxic fumes
- Working smoke detectors double an occupants chance of surviving a fire

PLACEMENT

- You should have a smoke detector in each room, in the hallway close to each sleeping area and in heavily occupied areas like living rooms.
- Sleep with bedroom doors closed and having a working smoke detector offers the best escape
- Smoke detectors should be placed on or near the ceiling where smoke tends to be the heaviest. On ceilings mount the detector away from corners and walls with dead spaces nearby.
- Smoke detectors should NOT be placed directly over stoves, ovens, fireplaces, or in bathrooms

PURCHASING

- Make sure the selected detector has a laboratory label, insuring that the model has been carefully tested
- Make sure the detector is loud enough to alert occupants with the door closed
- Make sure the detector has a malfunction signal, to warn you when batteries are low
- Make sure detector is easy to maintain and clean

MAINTENANCE

- Test your smoke detector monthly
- Replace your batteries every 6 months
- Replace your detector according to manufacturer's instructions or every 5 years
- Never take the batteries from your detectors to use for other items