

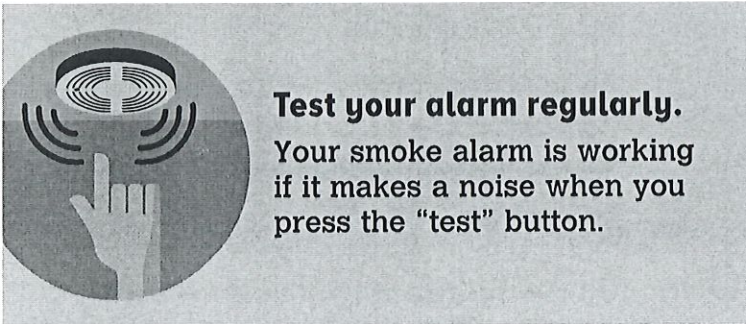
Fire Safety Checklist for Homeowners and Renters

If there is a fire, you may have less than 3 minutes to get out of your home. Talk about what you should do to be safe. Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do if there is a fire.

Put a check in front of each statement that is true for your home.

Smoke Alarms

- Smoke alarms are on every level of the home.
- Smoke alarms are inside and outside sleeping areas.
- Smoke alarms are tested each month.
- Smoke alarm batteries are changed as needed.
- Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.



Cooking Safety

- The cooking area has no items that can burn.
- People stay in the kitchen when they are frying, grilling, boiling, or broiling food.
- Pot handles are always turned toward the back of the stove.

Escape Plan

- There is a fire escape plan that shows 2 ways out of every room.
- Everyone knows where the safe meeting place is outside the home.
- Everyone living in the house practices the escape plan 2 times a year.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Carbon monoxide alarms are located on each level of the home.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are less than 7 years old.

Electrical and Appliance Safety

- All electrical cords are in good condition and not broken or cut.
- People clean the dryer of lint after every use.
- All plug outlets are safe and do not feel warm when you touch them. (If they are warm, call the landlord or an electrician.)

Candle Safety

- Candles are in sturdy fire-proof containers that won't be tipped over.
- Adults blow out all candles when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Candles are kept out of reach from children and pets.



Attention Owners – New Law January 1, 2018

Smoke Alarms

General Requirements

Maryland state law requires that each sleeping area in a residential dwelling have an automatic smoke alarm. This requirement applies to one- and two-family homes, apartment buildings, dormitories, and hotels.

A smoke alarm must meet four requirements under state law:

- Installed in accordance with the National Fire Alarm Code
- Listed and labeled by a nationally recognized testing laboratory
- Able to sense visible or invisible particles of combustion
- Able to sound an alarm that will warn people in the sleeping area

As discussed in greater detail below, there are stricter requirements for recently constructed buildings. [Read the Law: MD Code, Public Safety § 9-102](#)

Maintenance

The landlord or property owner must install smoke alarms. A landlord is also responsible for repairing or replacing a tenant's smoke alarm.

A tenant is responsible for testing the smoke alarms. If a smoke alarm needs to be repaired or replaced, the tenant must tell the landlord in writing. The landlord must acknowledge the tenant's notice in writing and repair or replace the smoke alarm within five (5) days of receiving the tenant's notice.

A tenant may not remove or tamper with a smoke alarm. [Read the Law: MD Code, Public Safety § 9-106](#)