

TITLE: SMOKE ALARM

VERSION: V2.1

DATE PUBLISHED: 4/2/21

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DEFINITION: A self-contained device that detects the presence of smoke, typically as an indicator of fire, and provides a visual or audio signal as an alert.

PURPOSE: To detect the presence of smoke and provide alert.

NAME VARIANTS: Smoke detector

COMMON MATERIALS: Plastic

COMMON COMPONENTS: Plastic shell, Base, Battery, Light, Speaker, Test button, Electronic circuit; Battery backup

LOCATION:  Unit Bedrooms, hallways, kitchens, stairwells  
 Inside Hallways, kitchens, stairwells, common areas  
 Outside None

MORE INFORMATION:

- Smoke alarm should be installed high on walls or ceilings.
  - If mounted on the ceiling, then it must be greater than 4 inches from the wall.
  - If mounted on the wall, then it cannot be closer than 4 inches or greater than 12 inches from the ceiling.
- Smoke alarm should be installed at least 10 feet from a cooking appliance.
- Smoke alarm should not:
  - Be installed near windows, doors, or ducts where drafts might interfere with their operation.
  - Be painted or have stickers or other decorations present.

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DEFICIENCY 1: Smoke alarm is not installed where required.

LOCATION:  Unit  Inside

DEFICIENCY 2: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

LOCATION:  Unit  Inside

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DEFICIENCY I — UNIT: SMOKE ALARM IS NOT INSTALLED WHERE REQUIRED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm is not installed inside each sleeping area, outside each sleeping area, and on each level.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Indirect	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a smoke alarm is not installed inside each sleeping area, outside each sleeping area, and on each level, and there is a fire, then there may be an increased safety risk to the resident due to fire-related hazards, such as smoke inhalation and burns, which may result in injury or death.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	Property management would be expected to ensure that staff members understand how to identify a smoke alarm that is not installed inside each sleeping area, outside each sleeping area, and on each level. Management practices would be expected to assure prompt creation and prioritization of a work order to replace or install a smoke alarm, because it may result in safety hazards.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Observe each location where a smoke alarm is required.  
 - Verify a smoke alarm is present.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - None

More Information: - None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - None

DEFICIENCY I — INSIDE: [SMOKE ALARM IS NOT INSTALLED WHERE REQUIRED.](#)

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm is not installed on each level.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening      The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Indirect	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a smoke alarm is not installed on each level, and there is a fire, then there may be an increased safety risk to the resident due to fire-related hazards, such as smoke inhalation and burns, which may result in injury or death.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	Property management would be expected to ensure that staff members understand how to identify a smoke alarm that is not installed on each level. Management practices would be expected to assure prompt creation and prioritization of a work order to replace or install a smoke alarm because it may result in safety hazards.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Observe each location where a smoke alarm is required.  
 - Verify a smoke alarm is present.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - None

More Information: - None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - None

DEFICIENCY 2 — UNIT: SMOKE ALARM DOES NOT PRODUCE AN AUDIO OR VISUAL ALARM WHEN TESTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Indirect	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested, then the resident may not receive warning of fire, resulting in an increased safety risk to the resident due to fire-related hazards, such as smoke inhalation and burns, which may result in injury or death.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	Property management would be expected to ensure that staff members understand how to identify a smoke alarm that does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested. Management practices would be expected to assure prompt creation and prioritization of a work order to remedy this deficiency because it may result in safety hazards.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION: - Look at the smoke alarm to find a test button.
- REQUEST FOR HELP: - If no test button is present, then ask the POA for a smoke detector maintenance certificate.
- ACTION: - Press the test button and determine if the light on the smoke alarm flashes, strobes, or changes pattern in any way.  
 - Listen to hear if an alarm is emitted from the smoke alarm at an audible level to alert the resident.
- More Information: - None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

- REQUIRED: - None
- USEFUL: - Telescoping pole

DEFICIENCY 2 — INSIDE: [SMOKE ALARM DOES NOT PRODUCE AN AUDIO OR VISUAL ALARM WHEN TESTED.](#)

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

RATIONALE:

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Indirect	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a smoke alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested, then the resident may not receive warning of fire, resulting in an increased safety risk to the resident due to fire-related hazards, such as smoke inhalation and burns, which may result in injury or death.
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	Property management would be expected to ensure that staff members understand how to identify a smoke alarm that does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested. Management practices would be expected to assure prompt creation and prioritization of a work order to remedy this deficiency because it may result in safety hazards.

INSPECTION PROCESS:

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- ACTION: - Press the test button and determine if the light on the smoke alarm flashes, strobes, or changes pattern in any way.  
 - Listen to hear if an alarm is emitted from the smoke alarm at an audible level to alert the resident.
- More Information: - None

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

- REQUIRED: - None
- USEFUL: - Telescoping pole

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

**TITLE:** SMOKE ALARM  
**VERSION:** V2.1  
**DATE PUBLISHED:** 4/2/21

FIELD	CHANGE	VERSION	DATE
----	Copyedits	V2.1	2021-04-02
Definition	Revised definition	V2.0	2020-10-28
Common Components	Revised common components	V2.0	2020-10-28
Deficiency 1		V2.0	2020-10-28
Title	Revised title		
Deficiency Criteria	Revised deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Added standardized description		
HCV Pass / Fail	Field added; response input as "Fail"		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations		
Inspection Process	Copyedits; revised more information to "None"		
Deficiency 2		V2.0	2020-10-28
Title	Copyedits		
Deficiency Criteria	Copyedits		
Health and Safety Determination	Added standardized description		
HCV Pass / Fail	Field added; response input as "Fail"		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations		
Inspection Process	Copyedits		
Overall Formatting	Complete rework of document format and layout	V1.3	2020-07-31
Title	Revised title	V1.3	2020-07-31
Definition	Revised definition	V1.3	2020-07-31
Purpose	Field added	V1.3	2020-07-31

<b>Name Variants</b>	<b>Revised name variants</b>	<b>VI.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Common Components</b>	<b>Revised common components</b>	<b>VI.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Revised inspectable locations</b>	<b>VI.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>More Information</b>	<b>Field added</b>	<b>VI.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
<b>Deficiency 1</b>	<b>Separated by inspectable locations – Unit and Inside</b>	<b>VI.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
Title	Revised title; added inspectable locations		
Deficiency Criteria	Revised deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Revised to “Life-Threatening” determination; added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
HCV – Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		
Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency; response revised		
<b>Deficiency 2</b>	<b>Removed previous deficiency 2; replaced with previous deficiency 3 Separated by inspectable locations – Unit and Inside</b>	<b>VI.3</b>	<b>2020-07-31</b>
Title	Revised title; added inspectable locations		
Deficiency Criteria	Revised deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Revised to “Life-Threatening” determination; added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
HCV – Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
Rationale	Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		
Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency; response revised		