



Smoke Alarms Factsheet

About smoke alarms

Smoke alarms are life-saving devices that detect smoke well before any sleeping occupant would and provide critical seconds to act to save life and property in the event of a fire.

By law, smoke alarms must be located between each bedroom area and the rest of the house (in the hallway if there is one), at the top of all stairways, and one on each level of the property that doesn't contain a bedroom. Smoke alarms must be either hardwired to the mains power supply or be powered by a 10-year non-removable battery. In most cases they will be both.

By default, the smoke alarms installed will emit an audible signal when triggered. In the event a tenant, or household member is hearing impaired, Loreto Community Housing will arrange an appropriate alternative solution upon request.

Loreto Community Housing's responsibility

It is Loreto Community Housing responsibility to:

- Ensure that all smoke alarms in a dwelling are cleaned and tested at commencement of a new tenancy
- Replace smoke alarms before the expiry date of the device.
- Repair or replace the alarm as soon as possible when notified of any issues by the tenant.

Tenant's responsibility

It is the tenant's responsibility to:

- Replace the back-up battery annually.
- Notify Loreto Community Housing when replacing the battery is not possible due to physical or financial constraints.
- Ensuring the smoke alarm is clean and free from dust or debris that may prevent air from entering it;
- Ensuring the smoke alarm tests effectively and sounds a warning.
- Notify Loreto Community Housing as soon as possible when the device is faulty or missing.
- Notify Loreto Community Housing as soon as possible when there are any fire safety concerns

More information

- Smoke Detector Policy – Loreto Community Housing
- <https://www.cbos.tas.gov.au>
- Residential Tenancy Act 1997