

Caring for your smoke alarm



GREATER MANCHESTER
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



Smoke Alarm Maintenance

Your smoke alarms are a vital protection from the danger of fire in your home. They provide an early warning of danger, giving your family precious time to get out of your home quickly.

A simple maintenance plan will ensure that your smoke alarm continues to protect your family. Make sure all your alarms are fitted according to the manufacturers instructions:

One-year battery alarms (Optical and Ionisation)

- ☑ Test the alarm each week.
- ☑ Vacuum the alarm every three months using the soft brush attachment.
- ☑ Change the battery annually, even if it is not emitting a low power warning.
- ☑ Always use a high quality battery.

Ionisation /Optical Alarms with 10 year life lithium battery

- ☑ Test the alarm each week.
- ☑ Vacuum the alarm every three months using the soft brush attachment.
- ☑ Replace the unit at the end of lifespan.

Mains powered units with battery back-ups

- ☑ The installation of this type of system should only be carried out by qualified and competent electricians.
- ☑ Test the system every week.
- ☑ Keep the unit clean and dust free. Vacuum the alarm every three months using the soft brush attachment in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.
- ☑ Replace the backup battery according to the manufacturers recommendation.

Smoke Alarms should be fitted at least 30cm (12") away from any wall or light fitting and close to the centre of the room. Care should be taken to fit them where you can hear them particularly when you are asleep.



**For free home safety advice, call us now on freephone
0800 555 815**

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