



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS**  
**SMOKE & CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM RETROFIT VERIFICATION**  
**TO BE COMPLETED BY EITHER PROPERTY OWNER OR CONTRACTOR**

**Please submit this form to your inspector or email it to [Building@losgatosca.gov](mailto:Building@losgatosca.gov).**

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit No: \_\_\_\_\_

In an effort to enhance life safety within dwellings, California Residential Code Sections R314 & R315, California Building Code Section 907.2.11.2, and National Fire Protection Association Section 29.8.3.4 require the retrofit of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in existing dwellings when alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit are made. Generally, the alarms must be hard wired (110 volt) with battery back-up and all alarms are to be interconnected. If the installation of the alarms will require the removal of wall or ceiling finishes or there is no access by means of attic, basement or crawl space, then alarms may be solely battery operated and not interconnected. The alarms must be installed by the time a final inspection is requested for your project.

Alarms must be installed in ALL of the following locations within the existing dwelling:

- In all bedrooms (*only requires a Smoke Alarm*), unless the bedroom contains a gas appliance, then a carbon monoxide alarm is required as well.
- Immediately outside of each sleeping area (*These areas require a Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm*).
- At least one Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide alarm on each level of the dwelling. This includes basements and habitable attic rooms.

And,

- Shall be current within 10 years from the date of manufacture marked on the unit, or replaced if the date of manufacture cannot be determined
- Shall be equipped with a 10 year battery and have a silence feature if a conventional ionization smoke alarm
- Shall be replaced if no longer functioning

***I understand the above requirements and certify that we have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms installed that comply with the code and with the manufacturer's instructions, have been tested, and do function properly.***

***Must be signed by either the property owner or contractor***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

OR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Contractor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

**ATTENTION OWNER/CONTRACTOR:**

***This is a Voluntary Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm verification procedure. If you prefer a Building Inspector to perform the verification, you must arrange to have an adult present at the time of inspection.***

***This verification is only used when normal access to the interior of the dwelling by the Building Inspector is not achieved during the course of project construction (ex: re-roof, swimming pools, solar installations, etc.).***

***Please see other side for further specifications.***

Further Specifications

1. Smoke alarms shall not be located where ambient conditions, including humidity and temperature, are outside the limits specified by the manufacturer.
2. Smoke alarms shall not be located within unfinished attics or garages or in other spaces where temperatures can fall below 40 degrees or exceed 100 degrees.
3. Where mounting surfaces could become considerably warmer or cooler than the room, smoke alarms shall be mounted on an inside wall.
4. Smoke alarms shall be installed a minimum of 20 feet horizontal distance from a permanently installed cooking appliance unless listed for closer proximity. Ionization alarms with an alarm-silencing switch or photoelectric alarms can be installed at 20 feet or greater from a permanently installed cooking appliance. Where the cooking area and the adjacent spaces have no clear partitions and the 10 foot distance would conflict with other sections of the Code, a photoelectric alarm can be placed at greater than 6 feet from a permanently installed cooking appliance.
5. Smoke alarms shall not be installed within 3 feet horizontal distance from the door or opening of a bathroom that contains a bathtub or shower unless this would conflict with other sections of the Code.
6. Smoke alarms shall not be installed within 3 feet horizontal distance from the tip of the blade of a ceiling fan or a supply register and outside of the direct airflow from the register. There is no issue with proximity to return air registers.
7. Where stairs lead to other occupied levels, locate the smoke alarms so that smoke rising in the stair well cannot be prevented from reaching the alarm by an intervening door or obstruction.
8. For stairways leading up from a basement, smoke alarms shall be located on the basement ceiling near the entry to the stairs.
9. For tray-shaped (coffered) ceilings, smoke alarms shall be installed on the highest portion of the ceiling or in the sloped portion of the ceiling within 12 inches vertically down from the highest point.
10. For smoke alarms installed in rooms with joists or beams; refer to NFPA 72:17.7.3.2.4.