

# SMOKE ALARM LAWS



## AS OF JANUARY 1, 2018 - MARYLAND LAW REQUIRES:

### IF BATTERY OPERATED ONLY, ALARM MUST:

- Be powered by 10-year sealed battery
- Have a silence/hush feature

ONE ALARM MUST BE LOCATED ON EACH LEVEL OF THE DWELLING INCLUDING THE BASEMENT

### IF HARDWIRED ALTERNATING CURRENT (AC) ALARM:

- May NOT be older than 10 years from the date of manufacture\*

**NOTE: REGARDLESS OF WHEN BUILT,** battery operated only alarms must be powered by 10-year sealed batteries, and no unit, whether battery operated or AC, may be older than 10 years. Types of alarms found in homes have changed over time based on requirements at the time of construction.

**BUILT BEFORE**  
7/1/75



Located:  
Each hallway  
outside bedroom(s)

**BUILT BETWEEN**  
7/1/75 - 1/1/89



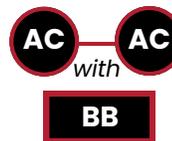
Located:  
Each hallway  
outside bedroom(s)

**BUILT BETWEEN**  
1/1/89 - 7/1/90



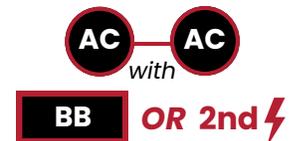
Located:  
Each hallway  
outside bedroom(s)

**BUILT BETWEEN**  
7/1/90 - 7/1/13



Located:  
Each hallway  
outside bedroom(s)

**BUILT AFTER**  
7/1/13



Located:  
Each hallway outside  
bedroom(s) **AND** in  
each bedroom

## BE AWARE

- Hardwired AC Alarms must be replaced with hardwired alarms of the same type.
- Additional alarms required as of January 1, 2018 (such as in basement) may be battery operated if they are 10-year sealed battery alarms with a silence/hush button feature.
- A seller who fails to comply with the law is subject to a fine, imprisonment, or both.
- As required by law, any information about alarms that is shared with a REALTOR® is considered a material fact that must be disclosed to all parties.

**\*NOTE: Date of manufacture will be marked on back of smoke alarm. If no date is printed on device, it should not be used.**

## KEY



B: Battery powered alarm



AC: Alarm powered by alternating current (hardwired)



AC-AC: Hardwired interconnected alarm



BB: Battery Backup



Approved alternate secondary power source