

# SMOKE ALARMS DIAGNOSTIC CHECKLIST

## INSECTS & DUST

Insects and dust are a common cause of false alarms due to the debris they leave behind.



- ☐ Vacuum, dust, and wipe down smoke alarm chamber
- ☐ Use a cloth sprayed with repellent and wipe the area around the baseplate and alarm
- ☐ Do NOT spray repellent directly on alarm

## SHARED CIRCUITS

Smoke alarms are commonly connected to lighting circuits shared with other electrical products such as ceiling fans, lighting dimmers, poor quality LED lights, and heat lamps. These products can create electrical noise or interference causing an alarm to activate. Smoke alarms should be installed on their own circuit.



## HIGH HUMIDITY

Water vapors can develop inside the smoke sensor causing smoke alarms to react the same way as it does smoke.



- ☐ Use a hairdryer to blow warm air through the smoke alarm to help dry out any moisture build up
- ☐ Ensure the house is well ventilated to prevent any build-up of humidity

*Rain and/or prolonged wet weather events can contribute to vapor buildup in the air. If humidity reaches over 85%, false alarms are more likely to occur!*

## COOKING FUMES

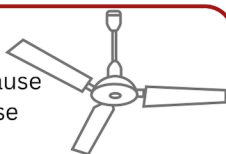
Steam, smoke, or other fumes can cause an alarm to activate. Especially when the alarm is located too close to the kitchen.



- ☐ Make sure the alarm is installed at least 5 meters away from the kitchen area
- ☐ Keep the kitchen area well ventilated and utilize an extraction fan where possible.

## AIR MOVEMENT

High air movement can cause the alarm to pick up false molecular movement.



- ☐ Ensure the alarm is not installed near ceiling fans
- ☐ Ensure the alarm is not installed near air conditioning units or stand-alone units are not pointed at the alarm
- ☐ Do not smoke inside the house. This includes cigarettes, vaping, or any other smoking device.

## STEAM

Steam from a bathroom, laundry, or sauna room can cause a smoke alarm to activate.



- ☐ Do not install smoke alarms within or outside bathrooms and laundries
- ☐ When showering or taking a bath, do not leave the door open if the alarm is in close proximity

## POWER & RIPPLE FREQUENCY

Unstable Power or power interruptions can cause electrical spikes in the circuit causing the smoke alarm to beep or alarm for a short period of time.



In some areas, electricity suppliers inject a control signal to the network to remotely control devices such as hot water or street lighting.

A ripple signal and an EMI filter may help to filter out any interferences and eliminate the signal from the mains power.

## WEAK BATTERIES

Weak batteries will cause intermittent chirping and increase the chance of a false alarm.



Ensure you have high-quality batteries installed

At the first sign of batteries going flat, replace with new alkaline batteries

## REMEMBER!

*Smoke alarms require maintenance. Red Smoke Alarms recommends you test, clean, and vacuum your alarms annually! In high dust areas, more frequent maintenance is required.*

**REPLACE YOUR SMOKE ALARM EVERY 10 YEARS  
TO ENSURE THEY CONTINUE TO OPERATE  
EFFICIENTLY!**