

## Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Matrix

Year of OBC	Smoke Alarm Requirements	Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements
Jan 1, 2015 – Current	Hardwired interconnected smoke alarm on all levels of the house as well as interconnected smoke alarm in each sleeping room. Smoke alarms are also required to have a battery backup and a visual component to them (strobe). Smoke alarms may have a silence (hush) button on them (10 min maximum).	Hardwired adjacent to each sleeping area in the dwelling unit. If multiple carbon monoxide detectors are required, they are required to be interconnected. Where the building is not supplied with power, battery operated is permitted.
Jan 1, 2014 – Dec 31, 2014	Hardwired interconnected smoke alarm on all levels of the house as well as interconnected smoke alarms in each sleeping room. Smoke alarms are also required to have a battery backup. Smoke alarms may have a silence (hush) button on them. (10 min maximum).	<b>Same as above.</b>
Dec 31, 2006 – Dec 31, 2013	<b>Same as 1998-2006 (below).</b>	<b>Same as above.</b>
April 6, 1998 – Dec 30, 2006	Hardwired interconnected smoke alarm on all levels. Smoke alarms may have a silence (hush) button on them.  Note: There is an option to have the smoke alarms inside bedrooms. This is rare as it would require multiple devices vs one (1) device in the hallway	As of August 6, 2001, the OBC was Amended to the following: Hardwired adjacent to each sleeping area in the dwelling unit. If multiple carbon monoxide detectors are required, they are required to be interconnected. Requirements shown below applicable up to August 5, 2001.
Oct 1, 1990 – April 5, 1998	Hardwired interconnected smoke alarm on all levels.	Carbon monoxide alarms are required on all levels that contain sleeping if the house contains a fuel burning appliance, fireplace, or an attached garage as per the 2015 Ontario Fire Code.
Oct 20, 1986 – Sept 30, 1990	<b>Same as 1983-1986 (below).</b>	<b>Same as above.</b>
Nov 30, 1983 – Oct 19, 1986	Hardwired on the floor of sleeping. If multiple floors contain <b>sleeping at the time of construction</b> the smoke alarms are required to be interconnected (OBC). <b>Note:</b> As per the 2007 Ontario Fire Code, 1 smoke alarm (battery or hard wired) is also required on each level of the house and outside each sleeping area. Smoke alarms are <b>not</b> required to be interconnected.	<b>Same as above.</b>
Dec 31, 1975 – Nov 29, 1983	Hardwired on the floor of sleeping, typically the upper floor (OBC). <b>Note:</b> As per the 2007 Ontario Fire Code, 1 smoke alarm (battery or hard wired) is also required on each level of the house and outside each sleeping area. Smoke alarms are <b>not</b> required to be interconnected.	<b>Same as above.</b>
Before 1975	Battery operated smoke alarm is currently required on <b>all floor levels</b> as per the 2006 Ontario Fire Code. 1997 Ontario Fire Code, first requirement of smoke alarms to be installed outside of all sleeping areas only. <b>The provision (requirement) for smoke alarms did not exist prior to 1975.</b>	<b>Same as above.</b>  <b>The provision (requirement) for carbon monoxide alarm did not exist prior to 1975.</b>

**Notes:** The provision for carbon monoxide alarms existed as a municipal bylaw prior to 2015.

- As of January 1, 2015, carbon monoxide alarms are regulated under the Ontario Fire Code (required in qualifying homes).
- Smoke alarms installed outside of sleeping areas shall be within 5m of bedroom door.
- OBC – Ontario Building Code
- A house that is built with OBC required (CAN/ULC – S531 & S553) alarms must maintain those alarms and cannot lower the level of protection. (ie. replacing a hardwired alarm with a battery-operated alarm).

**Please contact Oakville Fire Prevention for any questions at 905-338-4404 or [fireprevention@oakville.ca](mailto:fireprevention@oakville.ca)**

