

What you need to know about CO

What is CO?

CO is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas produced when fossil fuels do not burn completely, or are exposed to heat (usually fire). Electrical appliances typically do not produce CO. These fuels include:Wood, coal, charcoal, oil, natural gas, gasoline, kerosene, and propane.

Common appliances are often sources of CO. If they are not properly maintained, are improperly vented, or malfunction, CO levels can rise quickly. CO is a real danger now that homes are more energy efficient. “Air-tight” homes with added insulation, sealed windows, and other weatherproofing can “trap” CO inside.

Symptoms of CO poisoning

The following symptoms are related to CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING and are to be discussed with ALL members of the household:

- Mild Exposure: Slight headache, nausea, vomiting, fatigue (often described as “Flu-like” symptoms).
- Medium Exposure: Severe throbbing headache, drowsiness, confusion, and dizziness.
- Extreme Exposure: Unconsciousness, convulsions, cardiorespiratory failure, death.
- Many cases of reported CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING indicate that while victims are aware they are not well, they become so disoriented they are unable to save themselves by either exiting the building or calling for assistance. Young children and household pets are typically the first affected.

WARNING!

Some individuals are more sensitive to CO than others, including people with cardiac or respiratory problems, infants, unborn babies, pregnant women, or elderly people who can be severely affected by CO. Members of sensitive populations should consult their doctors for advice on taking additional precautions.

Finding the source of CO after an alarm

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, invisible gas, which often makes it difficult to locate the source of an alarm. These are a few of the factors that can make it difficult to locate sources of CO:

- House well ventilated before the investigator arrives.
- Problem caused by “backdrafting.”
- Transient CO problem caused by special circumstances.

Because CO may dissipate by the time an investigator arrives, it may be difficult to locate the source of CO. John Lewis shall not be obligated to pay for any carbon monoxide investigation or service call.

Potential sources of CO in the home



Fuel-burning appliances like: portable heater, gas or wood burning fireplace, gas kitchen range or cooking gas clothes dryer.

Damaged or insufficient venting: corroded or disconnected water heater vent pipe, leaking chimney pipe or fire, or cracked heat exchanger, blocked or clogged chimney opening.

Improper use of appliance/device: operating a barbecue grill or vehicle in an enclosed area (like a garage or screened porch).

Transient CO Problems: “transient” or on-again-off-again CO problems can be caused by outdoor conditions and other special circumstances.

- The following conditions can result in transient CO situations:
- Excessive spillage or reverse venting of fuel appliances caused by outdoor conditions such as:
 - Wind direction and/or velocity, including high, gusty winds.
 - Heavy air in the vent pipes (cold/humid air with extended periods between storms).
 - Negative pressure differential resulting from the use of exhaust fans.
 - Several appliances running at the same time competing for limited fresh air.
 - Vent pipe connections vibrating loose from clothes dryers, boilers, or water heaters.
 - Obstructions in or unconventional vent pipe designs which can amplify the above situations.

- Expanded operation of unvented fuel burning devices (range, oven, fireplace).
- Temperature inversions, which can trap exhaust close to the ground.
- Car idling in an open or closed attached garage, or near a house. These conditions are dangerous because they can trap exhaust in your home. Since the car can come and go, they are also hard to recreate during a CO investigation.

How can I protect my family from CO poisoning?
A CO Alarm is an excellent means of protection. It monitors the air and sounds an alarm before Carbon Monoxide levels become threatening for average, healthy adults.

A CO Alarm is not a substitute for proper maintenance of home appliances. To help prevent CO problems and reduce the risk of CO poisoning:

- Clean chimneys and flues yearly. Keep them free of debris, leaves, nests, or proper air flow. Also, have a professional check for rust, scale, corrosion, or clogs on sections. These conditions can prevent proper air movement and cause backdrafting. Never “cap” or cover a chimney in any way that would block air flow.
- Test and maintain all fuel-burning equipment annually. In the case of gas appliances, this must be a CORGI registered installer. Many local gas or oil companies and heating companies offer appliance maintenance and inspection contracts. When service technicians/ installers arrive to service your heating and cooking appliances, ensure the following checks are carried out if you are unable to do them yourself.
- Make regular visual inspections of all fuel-burning appliances. Check appliances for excessive rust and scaling, check the flame on burners and pilot lights. The flame should be blue. A yellow flame means fuel is not being burned completely and CO may be present. Keep the blower door on the boiler closed. Use vents or fans when they are available on all fuel-burning appliances. Make sure appliances are vented to the outside. Do not grill or barbecue indoors, or in garages or on screen porches.

- Check for exhaust backflow from CO sources. Check the draft on an operating boiler for a backdraft. Look for cracks on boiler heat exchangers.
- Check the house or garage on the other side of shared wall.
- Keep windows and doors open slightly. If you suspect that CO is escaping into your home, open a window or a door. Opening windows and doors can significantly decrease CO levels.

In addition, familiarize yourself with all enclosed materials. Read this manual in its entirety, and make sure you understand what to do if your CO Alarm sounds.

Regulatory information for smoke/CO alarms

Regulatory information for CO alarms

What levels of CO cause an alarm?
Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Standard UL2034 requires residential CO Alarms to sound when exposed to levels of CO and exposure times as described below. They are measured in parts per million (ppm) of CO over time (in minutes).

- Smoke Alarm sound ONLY:
- Smoke Alarm sounds when no smoke is visible.

LIMITED GUARANTEE

John Lewis Plc (“the Company”), guarantees its enclosed Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarm – but not the battery – to be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of five years from the date of purchase.

The unit is designed not to alarm when exposed to a constant level of 30 ppm for 30 days.

IMPORTANT!
CO Alarms are designed to alarm before there is an immediate life threat. Since you cannot see or smell CO, never assume it’s not present.

- An exposure to 100 ppm of CO for 20 minutes may not affect average, healthy adults, but after 4 hours the same level may cause headaches.
- An exposure to 400 ppm of CO may cause headaches in average, healthy adults after 35 minutes, but can cause death after 2 hours.

IMPORTANT!
This CO Alarm measures exposure to CO over time. It alarms if CO levels are extremely high in a short period of time, or if CO levels reach a certain minimum over a long period of time. The CO Alarm generally sounds an alarm before the onset of symptoms in average, healthy adults.

Continued...

Regulatory information for smoke/CO alarms

Why is this important? Because you are warned of a potential CO problem while you can still react in time. In many reported cases of CO exposure, victims may be aware that they are not feeling well, but become disoriented and can no longer react well enough to exit the building or get help. Also, young children and pets may be the first affected.

The average healthy adult might not feel any symptoms when the CO Alarm sounds. However, people with cardiac or respiratory problems, infants, unborn babies, pregnant mothers, or elderly people can be more quickly and severely affected. If you experience even mild symptoms of CO poisoning, consult a doctor immediately!

Standards: Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Single and Multiple Station arbon monoxide alarms UL2034. According to Underwriters Laboratories Inc. UL2034, Section 1-1.2. “Carbon monoxide alarms covered by these requirements are intended to respond to the presence of carbon monoxide from sources such as, but not limited to, exhaust from internal-combustion engines, abnormal operation of fuel-fired appliances, and fires. If you experience even mild symptoms of alarm at carbon monoxide levels below those that could cause loss of ability to react to the dangers of Carbon Monoxide exposure.” This CO Alarm monitors the air at the Alarm, and is designed to alarm before CO becomes life threatening. This allows you precious time to leave the house and correct the problem. This is only possible if Alarms are located, installed, and maintained as described in this manual.

Gas Detection at Typical Temperature and Humidity Ranges: The CO Alarm is suitable for use in individual flats provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like foyers, hallways, corridors, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection by-laws/regulation.

3. Institutions: Hospitals, day care facilities, long-term health care facilities. This Smoke Alarm may be suitable for use in individual patient sleeping/resident rooms, provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like foyers, hallways, corridors, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection by-laws/regulations.

4. Hotels and motels: Also hostels, inns, boarding houses and sheltered housing for use in industrial applications where Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements for Carbon Monoxide Alarms must be met. The Smoke Alarm portion of this device is not intended to alert hearing impaired residents. Special purpose Smoke Alarms should be installed for hearing impaired residents (CO Alarms are not yet viable for the hearing impaired).

- In all sleeping rooms and guest rooms.
- Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area, within 6.4 m (21 ft) of any door to a sleeping room, the distance measured along a path of travel.
- On every level of a dwelling unit, including basements.
- On every level of a residential board and care occupancy (small facility), including basements and excluding pool spaces and unfinished attics.
- In the living area(s) of a guest suite.
- In the living area(s) of a residential board and care occupancy.

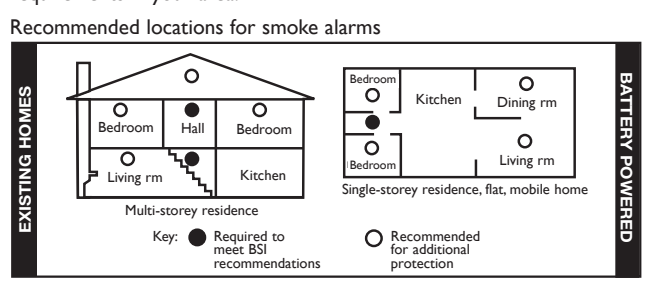
British standards (BS) recommendations BS 5839 part 6 (Code of practice for the design and installation of fire detection and alarm systems in dwellings)

Smoke Alarms shall be installed in all circulation spaces (normally hallways and staircases) that form part of escape routes, on one every level, and in all rooms and areas that present a high fire risk. Additionally, Smoke Alarms should also be installed between the sleeping area(s) and the most likely sources of fire (living room and kitchen).

If there are long hallways, corridors, or protected rooms or areas over 7.5 metres (25 feet) from the nearest unit, the installation of additional Smoke Alarms may be necessary. Roof voids containing stored combustibles or sources of ignition may also warrant the installation of additional Smoke Alarms. The installation of Smoke Alarms in kitchens, toilets, bathrooms or shower rooms is not recommended, as these locations occasionally experience conditions that can result in improper operation.

- More specifically, install smoke alarms:
- Where temperatures normally remain between 4.4 C (40 F) and 37.8 C (100 F).
 - On every level of your home, including finished lofts.
 - Inside every bedroom, especially if people sleep with doors closed.
 - In the hall near every sleeping area. If your home has multiple sleeping areas, install a unit in each. If a hall is over 7.5 metres (25 feet) long, install an alarm at each end.
 - At the top of the first-to-second floor and subsequent floor stairways, and at the bottom of the ground floor stairway.

IMPORTANT!
Specific requirements for Smoke Alarm installation may vary from region to region. Check with your local Fire Brigade and Building Control for current requirements in your area.



About smoke alarms
Battery (DC) powered smoke alarms: Provide protection even when electricity fails, provided the batteries are fresh and correctly installed. Units are easy to install, and do not require professional installation. May also be disconnected, model dependent, so if one unit senses smoke, all units alarm.

Mains (AC) powered smoke alarms: Can be interconnected so if one unit senses smoke, all units alarm. They do not operate if electricity fails. Mains (AC) with battery (DC) back-up: will operate if electricity fails, provided the batteries are fresh and correctly installed. Mains (AC) powered and mains powered with battery back-up (AC/DC) units must be installed by a qualified electrician.

All these Smoke Alarms are designed to provide early warning of fires if installed, installed, and cared for as described in the user’s manual, and if smoke reaches them. They are an insurance policy. Each type of Smoke Alarm to install, refer to British Standard (BS) 5839 Part 6 and 5888 Part 1. BS1, 389 Chiswick High Road, London, W4 4AL. UK. Local building regulations may also require specific units in certain parts of the home.

Special compliance considerations

WARNING!
This Smoke Alarm alone is not a suitable substitute for complete fire detection systems in places housing many people—like blocks of flats (communal escape routes), hotels, motels, hostels, inns, hospitals, long-term health care facilities, nursing homes, day care facilities, boarding houses or sheltered housing of any kind—even if they were once single-family residences. Continued...

Troubleshooting guide		
If the alarm...	Problem...	You should...
The light flashes (RED) and the horn sounds 5 “chirps” every minute.	END OF LIFE SIGNAL. Alarm needs to be replaced.	Immediately replace the Alarm.
Horn “chirps” about once per minute.	Low battery warning.	Install two new AA batteries.
Horn does three rapid “chirps” every minute; LED has 3 rapid flashes with “chirps”.	Device is not working properly, and needs to be replaced.	Units under guarantee should be returned to manufacturer for replacement. See “Limited Guarantee” for details.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm ONLY: CO Alarm goes back into alarm 4 minutes after you press the Test/Silence button.	CO levels indicate a potentially dangerous situation.	IF YOU ARE FEELING SYMPTOMS OF CO POISONING, EVACUATE your home and call 999 or the Fire Brigade. If not, press the Test/Silence button to regain normal ventilation your home.
CO Alarm sounds frequently even though no high levels of CO are revealed in an investigation.	The CO Alarm may be improperly located. Refer to “Where to Install This Alarm” for details.	Relocate your Alarm. If frequent alarms continue, have home rechecked for potential CO problems. You may be experiencing an intermittent CO problem.
Smoke Alarm sound ONLY: Smoke Alarm sounds when no smoke is visible.	Unwanted alarm may be caused by non-emergency source like cooking smoke.	Clean the Alarm’s cover with a soft, clean cloth. If frequent unwanted alarms continue, relocate your Alarm. Alarm may be too close to a kitchen, cooking appliance, or steamy bathroom.

For any technical queries or clarification please call the customer helpline on 01452 887570

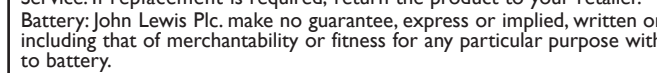
This symbol indicates that this product should not be treated as normal household waste and it should be recycled. John Lewis do not accept household takeback. If you are a member of the Company has the authority to increase or alter the obligations or limitations of the Guarantee.

The Company’s obligation of this Guarantee shall be limited to the repair or replacement of any part of the alarm which is found to be defective in materials or workmanship under normal use and service during the guarantee period. CO alarms such as living rooms and kitchens. In single storey homes with one sleeping area a Smoke Alarm should be installed in the hallway, as close as possible to the living accommodation. See “British Standards (BS1) Recommendations” for details. For additional coverage, it is recommended that you also install a Smoke Alarm in bedrooms in anticipation of fire originating there, in halls, storage areas, finished loft and roof voids. Make sure no door or other obstruction could keep smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarms or minimize the sound level produced from ensuring the occupants from hearing the alarm signal.

How to Obtain Guarantee Service:
Service/ If replacement is required, return the product to your retailer. Battery: John Lewis Plc make no guarantee, express or implied, written or oral, including that of merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose with respect to battery.

For your records, please record:
Date Purchased Where Purchased

Replace alarm 60 months after installation.



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Special compliance considerations, continued

It is not a suitable substitute for complete fire detection systems in warehouses, industrial facilities, commercial buildings, and special-purpose non-residential buildings which require special fire detection and alarm systems. Depending on the building regulations in your area, this Smoke Alarm may be used to provide additional protection in these facilities.

The following information applies to all four building types below:

1. New construction, most building regulations require the use of mains powered (AC) or mains powered with battery (AC/DC) Smoke Alarms only. In existing construction, mains powered (AC), mains powered with integral standby supply (AC/DC), or battery (DC) powered Smoke Alarms can be used as specified by local building regulations. Refer to British Standard BS 5839 Part 1, local building regulations, or consult your Fire Brigade for detailed fire protection requirements in buildings not defined as “dwellings.”

1. Single-family residence: Single family home. It is recommended Smoke Alarms be installed in all circulation spaces (normally hallways and staircases) that form part of escape routes, on every level, in all rooms and areas that present a high fire risk and between the sleeping area(s) and the most likely source of fire (living room and kitchen).

2. Multi-family or mixed occupant residence: Blocks of flats. This Smoke Alarm is suitable for use in individual flats provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like foyers, hallways, corridors, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection by-laws/regulation.

3. Institutions: Hospitals, day care facilities, long-term health care facilities. This Smoke Alarm may be suitable for use in individual patient sleeping/resident rooms, provided a primary fire detection system already exists to meet fire detection requirements in common areas like foyers, hallways, corridors, or porches. Using this Smoke Alarm in common areas may not provide sufficient warning to all residents or meet local fire protection by-laws/regulations.

4. Hotels and motels: Also hostels, inns, boarding houses and sheltered housing for use in industrial facilities, commercial buildings, and special-purpose non-residential buildings which require special fire detection and alarm systems. Depending on the building regulations in your area, this Smoke Alarm may be used to provide additional protection in these facilities.

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Smoke/CO Alarms may not detect smoke or CO on another floor or area of the home. For example, a stand-alone unit on the second floor may not detect smoke from a ground floor fire until the fire spreads. This may not give you enough time to escape safely. That is why we recommend minimum protection is at least one unit in all circulation spaces (normally hallways and staircases) that form part of escape routes, on every level, and in all rooms and areas that present a high risk. Even with a unit on every floor, stand-alone units may not provide as much protection as interconnected units, especially if the fire starts in a remote area. Some safety experts recommend installing interconnected mains (AC) powered units with battery (DC) back-up (see “About Smoke Alarms”) or professional fire detector systems, so if one unit senses smoke or CO, all units alarm. Interconnected units may provide earlier warning than stand-alone units since all units alarm when one detects smoke or CO.

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