



Risk Reduction

A division of the

Manhattan Fire Department

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Smoke Alarm Requirements in Homes Undergoing Alteration, Repair or Addition

The 2018 International Residential Code prescribes specific requirements for smoke alarms in homes that are undergoing alterations, repairs or additions. The purpose of this document is to clarify these requirements which are found in section 314 of the 2018 International Residential Code.

Where are smoke alarms required to be installed?

Any home undergoing interior alteration, repair or addition requiring a building permit shall have smoke alarms installed in all of the following locations. **Please be advised, this may require installation of smoke alarms outside of the work area.**

- In each bedroom
- Outside of bedrooms
- On each floor level

What are the power supply requirements? (Hardwired vs. Battery powered)

Smoke alarms are required to be hardwired in the following locations:

- In additions containing bedrooms or an additional story
- When finishing previously unfinished areas (Example: finishing an unfinished basement or attic)
- Renovations of bedrooms or areas outside of bedrooms where wall and ceiling finishes are removed in the scope of the project.

Smoke alarms in all other locations are permitted to be battery powered. Any existing hardwired alarm shall remain hardwired.

What are the interconnection requirements?

All smoke alarms in the home shall be interconnected. Wireless interconnection is permitted. All alarms, including wireless interconnected alarms, shall be listed and labeled as UL 217 compliant. **Please be advised, interconnection may require replacement of existing smoke alarms in the home.**