



Keep your family **safe from fire**

*Are you smoke
alarms compliant?*

“A house fire can be catastrophic, if not deadly.

A fire can start and spread in a matter of seconds.

Most home fires are preventable.

Make sure you take the necessary measures to prevent this from happening.”

Tenmen Electrical

Introduction

Fires are a popular topic in Australia. In 2020 alone, 400 people lost their homes in the fires. Most managed to escape, but a few did not.

Having your fire alarms ready and in good condition can save your life and your family.

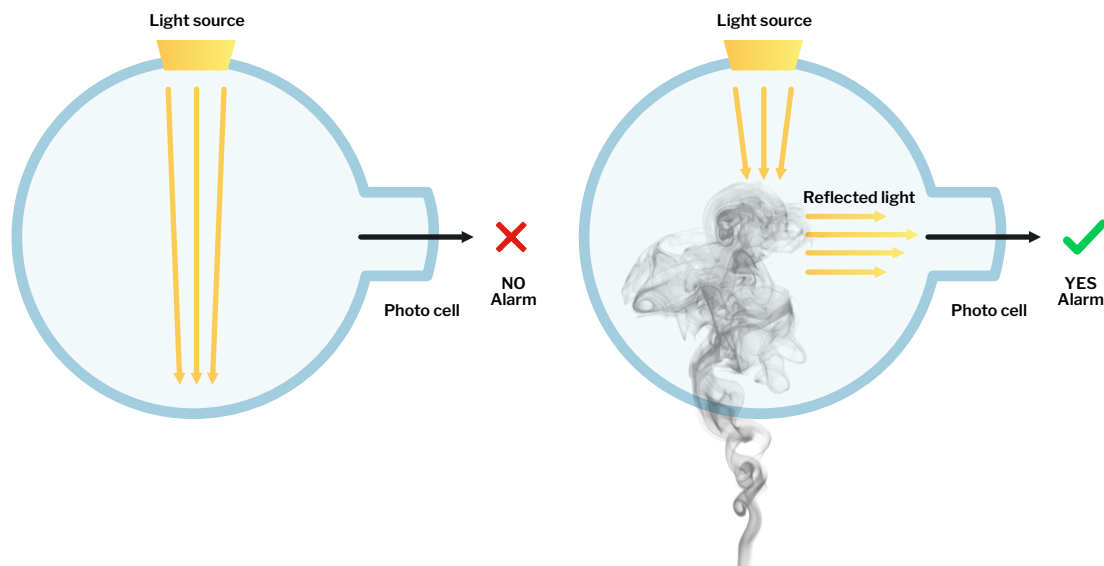
In addition, on January 1, 2017, Queensland began a 10-year phased rollout of interconnected photoelectric smoke detectors, requiring all rental or sold properties to have these alarms by 2022, and the rest of the households to have them by 2027.



What are photoelectric smoke alarms?

Photoelectric smoke alarms comprise a sensing chamber with a light-emitting diode and a light-sensitive sensor. When suspended smoke particles enter the chamber, reflecting light onto the light sensor; the alarm is triggered.

This will wake you up or warn you in case of a fire in your home so that you have enough time to escape the fire.



What are the new laws for smoke alarms?

Queensland households are one of the safest in Australia in terms of fire protection, thanks to the new smoke detector regulations.

Old ionisation smoke detectors are slow to respond and may not provide enough time for you or your loved ones to evacuate.



As a result, recent legislation requires the installation of photoelectric smoke alarms, which have been shown to be more efficient in the home.

On January 1, 2017, Queensland initiated a 10-year staggered deployment of interconnected photoelectric smoke alarms over three distinct periods:

From 1 January 2017:

Photoelectric smoke alarms must be installed in all new and substantially renovated dwellings (this applies to building applications submitted from 1 January 2017).

From 1 January 2022:

Photoelectric smoke alarms must be installed in all domestic dwellings leased and sold.

From 1 January 2027:

Photoelectric smoke alarms must be installed in all other domestic dwellings.

According to the new legislation, all Queensland dwellings would be required to have interconnected photoelectric smoke alarms in all bedrooms, hallways connecting bedrooms to the rest of the house, and on every floor.

From 1st of January 2017

Applies to:



**Dwellings
for owners**



**Dwellings being sold,
lease or an existing
lease renewed.**



New dwellings



**Dwellings being
substantially renovated**

Queensland homeowners should comply with the following rules regardless of the state of their property (own, lease, sell...):

- When replacing smoke alarms, they must be of photoelectric, which complies with Australian Standard (AS) 3786-2014.
- Existing smoke alarms manufactured more than ten years ago must be replaced (Note: Smoke alarms should have the date of manufacture stamped on them).
- Smoke alarms that do not operate when tested must be replaced immediately.
- Existing hardwired smoke alarms that need replacement must be replaced with a hardwired smoke alarm.



What does this suggest for you and your house?

Sooner or later, Photoelectric smoke alarms will be necessary to comply with the law in all households in QLD.

From 1st of January 2022

Applies to:



Dwellings being sold, lease or an existing lease renewed.



New dwellings



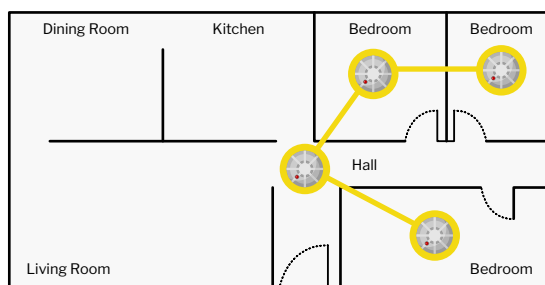
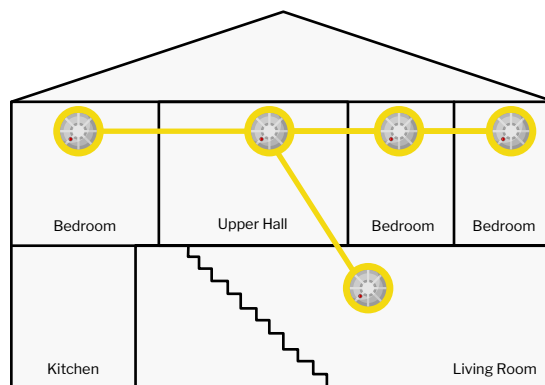
Dwellings being substantially renovated

Photoelectric Smoke alarms in the dwelling must:

- ☑ Be photoelectric (AS 3786-2014)
- ☑ Not also contain an ionisation sensor
- ☑ Be less than 10 years old
- ☑ Operate when tested
- ☑ Be interconnected with every other smoke alarm in the dwelling so all activate together.

They must be installed on each storey:

- ☑ In each bedroom
- ☑ In hallways which connect bedrooms and the rest of the dwelling;
- ☑ **If there is no hallway**, between the bedrooms and other parts of the storey;
- ☑ **If there are no bedrooms on a storey** at least one smoke alarm must be installed in the most likely path of travel to exit the dwelling;
- ☑ Be interconnected with every other smoke alarm in the dwelling so all activate together.



From 1st of January 2027

Applies to:



Dwellings for owners



Dwellings being sold, lease or an existing lease renewed.



New dwellings



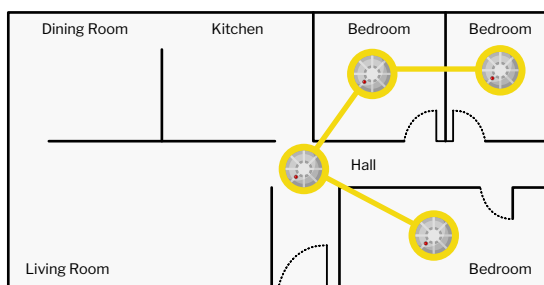
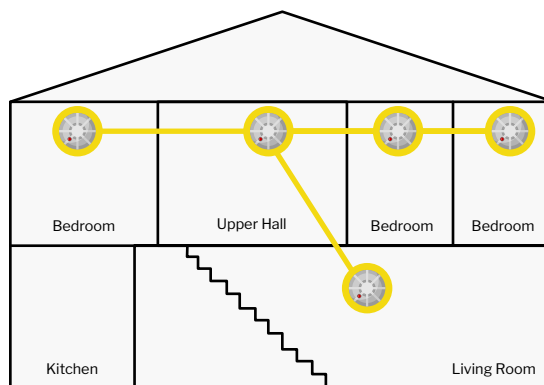
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Where should my smoke alarms be installed?

Where practicable smoke alarms must be placed on the ceiling.

Smoke alarms must not be placed:

- ✗ Within 300mm of a corner of a ceiling and a wall
- ✗ Within 300mm of a light fitting
- ✗ Within 400mm of an air-conditioning vent
- ✗ Within 400mm of the blades of a ceiling fan

There are special requirements for stairways, sloping ceilings, and ceilings with exposed beams. These requirements are explained in the Building Fire Safety Regulation 2008. Penalties may be imposed for non compliance with the law.

Why is it important to regularly check your smoke alarms?

Every week in Australia, more than one fire-related death occurs in a residential environment. The vast majority of these deaths could have been prevented. Due to residential fire deaths, individuals, families, and communities experience severe social, economic, and emotional effects.

Photoelectric smoke alarms can save lives. Do not take them for granted and relax just because they are there; ensure they are tested to activate in a real-life situation.

Smoke alarms cannot see in all directions and can only detect smoke if they are in the right place and in good condition. So, if the smoke alarm doesn't detect smoke, then there is no way it will sound. Thus, ensuring that your photoelectric smoke alarms will work in case of fire is crucial for your safety.

What's next?

If you've read through the entire guide and are certain that your smoke alarms are compliant, have no battery issues, and will activate in the event of a fire, that's fantastic.

If, on the other hand, you require assistance with any of those tasks, please follow the steps below.



1

Step one

Contact your local electrician

If you want to ensure that your alarms are in excellent working condition and that they are compliant, call your local electrician and explain your problem or concern.

2

Step two

Request an assessment & quote

A qualified electrician should come to analyse your situation and provide you with a solution and quotation, whether you need to fix an issue, replace a battery, or change the whole system.

3

Step three

Get it done

If you agree with the diagnosis and the quote provided, let your local electrician take care of the rest and enjoy peace of mind knowing that your family will be safe and your home compliant.

What it's like to Work with Tenmen

4.8  
Over 140+ Reviews



"I have just had smoke detectors installed by Tenmen. The guys that came were polite, friendly, and when they left you would not have known if they been here, even the place was spotless. I have ducted air and solar panels installed by these great guys. I would recommend highly that people have Tenmen do the work as you will know that it's done very professionally by great friendly guys."

- Gloria P.



"This company offers great service. We've used them for a variety of jobs around the house, getting lights installed, oven and cooktop replaced and some loose wiring fixed, and have met a few of their team members. Every single one has been polite, efficient and good at what they do. Highly recommended!"

- Mandy C.



"Isaac & his team have done a couple of big jobs for me now, incl solar, an aircon, fans & 2 new lights. Big investments & I know it is quality workmanship. All the team are polite, respectful & hardworking... this is just as important.... caring for customers is dropping off a bit these days, but not with Tenmen."

- Vicky O.

Accredited and Insured

We have the necessary accreditations, insurances and experience to carry out any kind of electrical, solar and air conditioning installation.



Contact us!



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