



Carbon Monoxide Detectors in Your Home/Apartment

What Is Carbon Monoxide?

Carbon monoxide (also known as CO) is an odorless, tasteless gas that is produced when fuels, like gas, kerosene, oil, wood or other materials are burned. There are many sources of carbon monoxide, and many of these can be found in your home. This is dangerous because breathing in even a small amount of carbon monoxide could be deadly for you, your family, your friends and your pets. Fortunately, there is one easy way to protect the ones you love:

Purchase and install a certified carbon monoxide detector.



About Carbon Monoxide Detectors

A carbon monoxide detector is an easy way to make sure that carbon monoxide, the “silent killer,” does not become an unwelcome guest in your home. Detectors can be purchased at your local department or hardware store for approximately \$25-50, depending on the model you select.

There are two things to look for when purchasing a CO detector:

- Make sure the detector is Underwriter Laboratories (UL) certified. Look for this symbol to be sure the detector you are buying is in line with common safety standards:



- If the detector can plug into the wall, make sure it has battery back-up. Some of the greatest carbon monoxide dangers lurk when the power goes out and the detector will not work when you need it most. Test the detector and replace the batteries every six months.

A carbon monoxide detector should be placed on each floor of your living space including one near your main sleeping area.



See page two for more information...



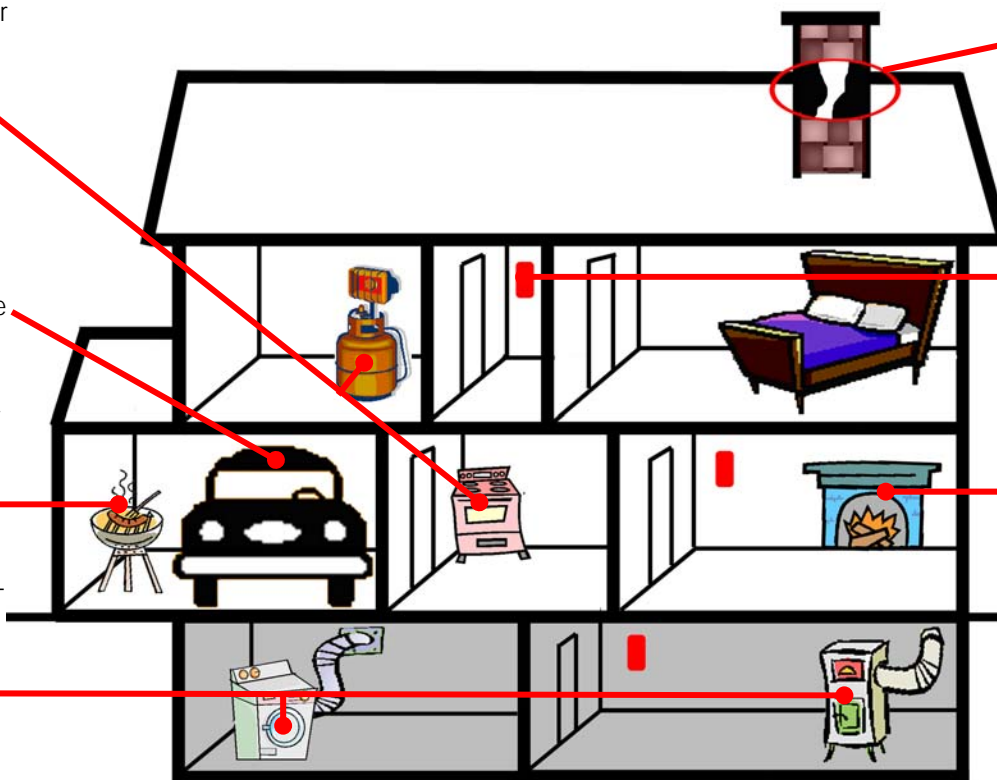
Some Common Sources of Carbon Monoxide in Your Home

DO NOT heat your home with a gas oven or use a propane/gas heater indoors.

DO NOT leave your car running inside your garage, even if the door is open.

DO NOT use your gas or charcoal grill inside your garage or house.

Do have your gas- and wood-powered appliances inspected yearly by a professional.



DO have your chimney and vents cleaned, inspected and serviced by a professional before the heating season begins each year.

DO install a carbon monoxide detector outside your bedroom area and on each floor of your home.

DO NOT close the damper to your fireplace until the fire is completely out and the coals are cold.

What to do if your carbon monoxide detector alarm sounds:

- Treat the alarm as you would a fire alarm and **leave your house immediately**. Make sure your family has a meeting place already arranged in case of an emergency.



- **DO go to the emergency room or dial 911** if anyone is feeling sick, especially if they have a **headache, dizziness, confusion, fatigue and are sick to their stomach**. Tell the emergency staff that you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.

- **DO NOT** waste time because you and others with you could pass out or even die depending on the amount of carbon monoxide that you breathed.

- If no one is sick, call the **emergency number** for your gas company or heating professional. Request that someone come to test your home and fix the leak.

- **DO NOT** go back into your home until you receive an all-clear from your gas company, heating professional or the fire department.

- If necessary, reset your alarm following the directions that came with your detector.

DO NOT ignore symptoms. You could DIE within minutes if you do nothing. Call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room as quickly as possible if you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.