



## USER'S MANUAL

### SMOKE ALARM

MODEL SM100



#### IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND SAVE.

The warnings/limitations card and manual contains important information about your Smoke Alarm's operation. If you are installing this manual—or a copy of it—with the user, you must leave this manual—or a copy of it—in an easily accessible location.

Para el manual del usuario en español, por favor visite [firstalert.com](http://firstalert.com)

#### ▲ WARNING!

- This unit will not alert hearing impaired residents. It is recommended that you install special units which use devices like flashing strobe lights to alert hearing impaired residents.
- Do not connect this unit to any other Alarm or auxiliary device. It is a single-station unit that cannot be linked to other devices. Connecting anything else to this unit may prevent it from working properly.
- Unit will not operate without battery power. The Smoke Alarm cannot work until you install the battery in the correct position (Match "+" to "+" and "-" to "-").

#### ▲ CAUTION!

- Do not install this unit over an electrical junction box. Air currents around junction boxes can prevent smoke from reaching the sensing chamber and prevent the unit from alarming. Only AC powered units are intended for installation over junction boxes.
- Do not stand too close to the unit when the Alarm is sounding. It is loud to wake you in an emergency. Exposure to the horn at close range may harm your hearing.
- Do not paint over the unit. Paint may clog the openings to the sensing chamber and prevent the unit from operating properly.

## 01 INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing First Alert® for your Smoke Alarm needs. You have purchased a state-of-the-art Smoke Alarm designed to provide you with early warning of a fire. Please take the time to read this manual and make the Smoke Alarm an integral part of your family's safety plan.

#### BASIC SAFETY INFORMATION

##### IMPORTANT!

- Dangers, Warnings, and Cautions alert you to important operating instructions or to potentially hazardous situations. Pay special attention to these items.
- This Smoke Alarm is approved for use in single-family residences. It is **NOT** designed for marine or RV use.

##### ▲ CAUTION!

- The Smoke Alarm will only indicate the presence of smoke that reaches the sensor.
- The Smoke Alarm is not designed to sense gas, heat or flames.

##### ▲ WARNING!

- This Smoke Alarm cannot operate without working batteries. Removing the batteries for any reason, or failing to replace the batteries at the end of their service life, removes your protection.
- NEVER** ignore any Alarm. See "If Your Smoke Alarm Sounds" for more information on how to respond to an Alarm. Failure to respond can result in injury or death.
- The Silence Features are for your convenience only and will not correct a problem. See "Using the Silence Features" for details. Always check your home for a potential problem after any Alarm. Failure to do so can result in injury or death.
- Test this Smoke Alarm once a week. If the Alarm ever fails to test correctly, have it replaced immediately! If the Alarm is not working properly, it cannot alert you to a problem.

## 02 ABOUT SMOKE ALARMS

#### TYPES OF ALARMS

All these Smoke Alarms are designed to provide early warning of fires if located, installed and cared for as described in the user's manual. If smoke reaches the Alarm, if you are unsure which type of unit to install, refer to NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 72 (National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code) and NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code). National Fire Protection Association, One Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269-9101. Local building codes may also require specific units in new construction or in different areas of the home.

**Battery (DC) operated 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. They do not, however, provide interconnected functionality.

**AC powered Smoke Alarms:** Can be interconnected so if one unit senses smoke, all units Alarm. They do not operate if electricity fails.

**AC with battery (DC) back-up:** will operate if electricity fails, provided the batteries are fresh and correctly installed. AC and AC/DC units must be installed by a qualified electrician.

**Smoke Alarms for Solar or wind energy users and battery backup power systems:** AC powered Smoke Alarms should only be operated with true or pure sine wave inverters. Operating this Smoke Alarm with most battery powered UPS (uninterruptible power supply) products or square wave or "quasi sine wave" inverters will **damage the Alarm**. If you are not sure about your inverter or UPS type, please consult with the manufacturer to verify.

**Smoke Alarms for the hearing impaired:** Special purpose Smoke Alarms should be installed for the hearing impaired. They include a visual Alarm and an audible Alarm horn, and meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. These units can be interconnected so if one unit senses smoke, all units Alarm.

**Smoke Alarms are not to be used with detector guards** unless the combination has been evaluated and found suitable for that purpose.

**All First Alert® Smoke Alarms conform to regulatory requirements, including UL217 and are designed to detect particles of combustion. Smoke particles of varying number and size are produced in all fires.**

Ionization technology is generally more sensitive than photoelectric technology at detecting small particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by flaming fires, which consume combustible materials rapidly and spread quickly. Sources of these fires may include paper burning in a wastebasket, or a grease fire in the kitchen.

Photoelectric technology is generally more sensitive than ionization technology at detecting large particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by smoldering fires, which may smolder for hours before bursting into flame. Sources of these fires may include cigarettes burning in couches or bedding.

For maximum protection, use both types of Smoke Alarms on each level and in every bedroom of your home.

## 03 INSTALLATION

#### WHERE TO INSTALL THIS ALARM

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), recommends one Smoke Alarm on every floor, in every sleeping area, and in every bedroom. In new construction, the Smoke Alarms must be AC powered and interconnected. See "Agency Placement Recommendations" for details. For additional coverage, it is recommended that you install a Smoke Alarm in all rooms, halls, storage areas, finished attics, and basements, where temperatures normally remain between 40° F (4.4° C) and 100° F (37.8° C). Make sure no door or other obstruction could keep smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarms.

#### IN GENERAL, INSTALL SMOKE ALARMS:

- On every level of your home, including finished attics and basements.
- 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 40 feet (12 meters) long, install an Alarm at each end.
- At the top of the first-to-second level stairway, and at bottom of basement stairway.

#### IMPORTANT!

Specific requirements for Smoke Alarm installation vary from state to state and from region to region. Check with your local Fire Department for current requirements in your area. It is **recommended AC or AC/DC units be interconnected for added protection.**

#### RECOMMENDED PLACEMENT:



**Smoke Alarm**  
One on every level and in every bedroom

**Carbon Monoxide Alarm**  
One on every level and in every bedroom

**Fire Extinguisher**  
One on every level, plus kitchen and garage



#### WHERE NOT TO INSTALL THIS ALARM

#### FOR BEST PERFORMANCE, IT IS RECOMMENDED YOU AVOID INSTALLING SMOKE ALARMS IN THESE AREAS:

- Where combustion particles are produced. Combustion particles form when something burns. Areas to avoid include poorly ventilated kitchens, garages, and furnace rooms. Keep units at least 20 feet (6 meters) from the sources of combustion particles (stove, furnace, water heater, space heater) if possible. In areas where a 20-foot (6-meter) distance is not possible – in modular, mobile, or smaller homes, for example – it is recommended the Smoke Alarm be placed as far from these fuel-burning sources as possible. The placement recommendations are intended to keep these Alarms at a reasonable distance from a fuel-burning source, and thus reduce "unwanted" Alarms. Unwanted Alarms can occur if a Smoke Alarm is placed directly next to a fuel-burning source. Ventilate these areas as much as possible.
- In air streams near kitchens. Air currents can draw cooking smoke into the sensing chamber of a Smoke Alarm near the kitchen.
- In very damp, humid or steamy areas, or directly near bathrooms with showers. Keep units at least 10 feet (3 meters) away from showers, saunas, dishwashers, etc.
- Where the temperatures are regularly below 40° F (4.4° C) or above 100° F (37.8° C), including unheated buildings, outdoor rooms, porches, or unfinished attics or basements.
- In very dusty, dirty, or greasy areas. Do not install a Smoke Alarm directly over the stove or range. Keep laundry room Smoke Alarms free of dust or lint.
- Near fresh air vents, ceiling fans, or in very drafty areas. Drafts can blow smoke away from the unit, preventing it from reaching the sensing chamber.
- In insect infested areas. Insects can clog openings to the sensing chamber and cause unwanted Alarms.
- Less than 12 inches (305mm) away from fluorescent lights. Electrical "noise" can interfere with the sensor.
- In "dead air" spaces. "Dead air" spaces may prevent smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarm.

#### AVOIDING DEAD AIR SPACES

"Dead air" spaces may prevent smoke from reaching the Smoke Alarm. To avoid dead air spaces, follow the installation recommendations below.

**On ceilings,** install Smoke Alarms as close to the center of the ceiling as possible. If this is not possible, install the Smoke Alarm at least 4 inches (102 mm) from the wall or corner.

**For wall mounting** (if allowed by building codes), the top edge of Smoke Alarms should be placed between 4 inches (102 mm) and 12 inches (305 mm) from the wall/ceiling line, below typical "dead air" spaces.

**On a peaked, gabled, or cathedral ceiling,** install the first Smoke Alarm within 3 feet (0.9 meters) of the peak of the ceiling, measured horizontally. Additional Smoke Alarms may be required depending on the length, angle, etc. of the ceiling's slope. Refer to NFPA 72 for details on requirements for sloped or peaked ceilings.

#### HOW TO INSTALL THIS ALARM

This unit is designed to be mounted on the ceiling, or on the wall if necessary.

**Tools you will need:** pencil, drill with 3/16" (5 mm) drill bit, standard flathead screwdriver, hammer.

#### THE PARTS OF THIS SMOKE ALARM

- Smoke LED (RED)
- Power LED (GREEN)
- Test/Silence button

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- Mounting Slots
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