

**Essex Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau
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Smoke Detector requirements for Single Family Dwellings

Smoke detectors shall be required in the following locations as per 780 CMR 5313.2.9:

1. In each bedroom (sleeping room)
2. Outside each separate bedroom(sleeping room)in the immediate area of the bedroom(sleeping room)
3. Near the base of all stairs where such stairs lead to another occupied floor.
4. On each additional story of the dwelling, including basements and cellars but not including crawl spaces and unoccupied attics.
5. For each 1200 square feet of area or part thereof.

When one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in an existing dwelling the entire building shall be provided with smoke detectors as required for new buildings.

When more than one code-required detector must be installed as required by 780 CMR 5313.2.3, the code-required detectors shall be compatible and interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one detector will activate all of the audible alarms.

Heat detectors shall be required in the following locations as per 780 CMR 5313.3.1:

1. Any integral garage (garage under) or attached garage to the main house (detached garages do not require a heat detector).
2. A new addition attached garage to an existing dwelling shall require a single heat detector installed in the garage. If the existing house contains a fire detection system that is compatible with the heat detector, then said heat detector shall be interconnected to the existing dwelling fire detection system. If not compatible the garage heat detector shall be connected to a sounder or compatible heat detector containing a sounding device, located in the dwelling within 20 feet of the nearest door to the garage. The required garage heat detector is not required to incorporate audible alarm notification.

As per 780 CMR 5313.4.3, one carbon monoxide detector shall be installed on each story of a dwelling unit, including basements and cellars (but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics)