

# Rx for Home Protection

## How the Carbon Monoxide work:

Different than smoke detectors, the CO, Carbon Monoxide detectors use an 'Electrochemical sensor', similar to a 'moist wick' sensor method. The wicks can dry up within a few years from the date of manufacture, and that makes them 'non-responsive' to the dangers of the presence of CO poisoning.

**THIS CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE OR DEATH!**

## The Silent Killer

Carbon Monoxide is the "Silent Killer" and is very dangerous. It creeps into our breathing air with the silence of a breeze.



Gas appliances are often overlooked as potential threats.



Regular maintenance of equipment can keep you safe from CO.

Our households have appliances that use natural gas such as: ovens and stoves cloths driers, furnaces, hot water heaters, fireplaces and attached garages. Often times, these sources can back-draft the CO back into the house.

Depending on the "PPM" (parts per million) reading you can become unconscious very quickly and

become helpless to get to fresh-air! Even mild

exposure of CO can cause you to get sick with 'FLU-LIKE' symptoms such



Carbon monoxide can enter the home from many sources.



Even with the garage door open, an idling car can be lethal.

as: the ache all over feeling, headaches and nausea. Family members can be exposed to large amounts of CO when just operating the stove or the oven. (Always use an exhaust fan to draw out the fumes omitted from the stove or oven.)

The **First Alert** is the latest 'High Tech' Carbon Monoxide Monitor Detector on the market today! Certified Accuracy by UL Underwriters Laboratory, and designed with an Internal Shut-Down Default, End-of-Use Warning-Beeper after 7 years, The EEPRON memory, keeps the unit calibrated and accurate. The batteries have a life expectancy of about two years.

The **NEW First Alert CO Detectors** are **Warranted for 7 years** including the sensor!



## It's now the Law!

The California Legislation is now requiring all households to have a working detector at each level of the house.

But how do we test each detector to see if it is still activated and will sound the warning in the presence of CO? The older CO detectors don't test the sensors, only the batteries. The latest models will test both the batteries and the sensor. A CO detector on the wall that does not go off when CO is present is dangerous and a major safety issue.

## Test every unit Annually:

CO detectors need testing periodically to confirm their sensitivity in times of emergency. On most old units, the test bottom will only test the battery power. With the **First Alert** the test button will test the sensor and by pushing the button, will

mute the sounds for 15 minutes giving you time to clear the air and get you to a clean source of air. Just press the button in order to sound the alarm for testing. Never expose a CO detector to excessive amounts of carbon monoxide. This might damage the sensor. The test button has been the solution to identifying units that are not performing properly. Now each detector can be tested each year to be sure the sensor is still activate.

## Proper installation of a CO Detector:

Most people want to know where to place a CO detector for proper sensing. When the carbon monoxide is omitted from any appliance, it is hot and will rise to the highest levels. For early detection, mount unit 6" off the highest level of house. It is tempting to mount the unit on the ceiling, but it might trigger false alarms, due to low amounts of CO that circulate in our homes, from the gas stoves and ovens. Placing a sensor 6" off the ceiling would be the most sensitive and quickest area to trigger the alarm. However, once the CO has cooled, the gas will settle to the lowest level of the house. Placing a sensor 6" off the floor will sense the accumulated levels along the floor. Caution should be used when babies are sleeping on the floor, accumulated CO can be overcome them very easily. The only true method of safe detection is to place a detector at both locations, high on the wall and low near the floor. Replace batteries annually and date the units and dispose of them when they expire.

**Call us for more details: (818) 790-8000**