



SMOKE ALARM TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

Smoke alarms are designed to activate when particles are detected in the air. If a smoke alarm is triggered in the absence of a fire or smoke, here are some reasons why.

INSECTS AND DUST



Insects and dust are a common cause of false alarms.

Tip: Regularly clean/vacuum your smoke alarm to remove any loose dust or dirt that may be inside the unit. Fumigate the base plate area using insect repellent wipes to deter insects (do not spray directly at alarm).

WEAK BATTERIES



Weak batteries will cause intermittent chirping and increase the chance of false alarms.

Tip: At the first sign of batteries going flat, replace with new alkaline batteries.

COOKING FUMES



Cooking fumes can cause a smoke alarm to activate especially when the smoke alarm is located too close to the kitchen.

Tip: Install smoke alarms at least 5 meters away from the kitchen area.

STEAM



Steam from bathroom/laundry areas can cause a smoke alarm to activate.

Tip: Do not install alarms within or outside bathrooms and laundries.

HIGH HUMIDITY



Water vapours can develop inside the smoke sensor causing smoke alarms to react the same way as it does smoke. Once humidity reaches 85%, false alarms could frequently occur.

Tip: Use a hair dryer to blow warm air through the smoke alarm to help dry out any moisture build up. Ensure the house is well ventilated to prevent any build-up of humidity.

REMEMBER

1. Smoke alarms require maintenance. PSA recommends to test, clean and vacuum alarms annually. In high dust areas, more frequent maintenance is required.
2. Replace smoke alarms every 10 years to ensure they continue to operate effectively.

AIR MOVEMENT



High air movement can cause the smoke alarm to false alarm.

Tip: Ensure smoke alarms are not installed near ceiling fans and air ducts.

SHARED CIRCUITS



Smoke alarms are commonly connected to lighting circuits shared with other electrical products, such as ceiling fans, lighting dimmers, poor quality (LED) lights, and heat lamps. These products can create electrical noise or interference causing the smoke alarm to activate. Smoke alarms should be installed in their own electrical sub-circuit branch to avoid electrical interferences.

Tip: Avoid putting too many high wattage appliances on the same circuit as the smoke alarms. An EMI filter may help to filter out any interference caused by lights or appliances.

POWER ISSUES



Unstable power or power interruptions can cause electrical spikes in the circuit, causing the smoke alarm to beep or alarm for a short period of time.

Tip: An EMI filter may help to filter out any interference caused by power issues.

RIPPLE FREQUENCY



In some areas, electricity suppliers inject a control signal into the network to remotely control devices like hot water systems and street lighting. These ripples may also occur in the early hours of the morning and can cause smoke alarms to beep or activate.

Tip: A ripple signal filter may help to eliminate the signal from mains power.

LIFESAVER 6000 SERIES RANGE



LIF6000
240VAC PE Smoke Alarm.
9V Backup



LIF6000RL
240VAC PE Smoke Alarm.
Lithium Recharge Backup



LIF6000DCW
10 Year Wireless PE
Smoke Alarm



LIF6000WB
RF Interlink Base for 6000
& 6000RL Alarms



LIF6000THL
Smoke Alarm Control.
Wireless Test Hush Locate

For further information or assistance, please call our Technical Support team on 1300 772 776 or read our online FAQ at psaproducts.com.au/smoke-alarm-faqs/

