

## False Alarm Prevention



### False Alarms

- Take police away from other pressing matters
- Are a nuisance to you and your neighbors
- Make your security system less reliable
- Make you reluctant to use your system

The information in this pamphlet is provided by the False Alarm Reduction Association, with contributions from the California Alarm Association, Adopt a City Program and the National Burglar & Fire Alarm Association.

For more information on false alarm reduction, visit the False Alarm Reduction Association's (FARA) Web site at [www.faraonline.org](http://www.faraonline.org) and contact your First Alert Professional Authorized Dealer.

## Residential False Alarm Prevention Guide

Easy to Follow  
Tips for the  
Alarm Customer



**Honeywell**



[www.firstalertprofessional.com](http://www.firstalertprofessional.com)

## Residential False Alarms

- Did you know that the three major causes of false alarms are:

- User errors
- Installation or service errors
- Equipment failures



- Did you know that more than 80% of false alarms are related to preventable user errors?
- Did you know that 20% of alarm users cause 80% of all false alarms?
- Do you think alarmed locations are entitled to unlimited police response?



### What are the causes of false alarms?

- Inadequate training of people to your security system
- Weak system batteries
- Open, unlocked or loose fitting doors and windows
- Drafts from heaters and air conditioning systems that move plants, curtains, balloons, etc.

## Workable Solutions...

### Know what to do if you set off your alarm by accident

- 1) **First, Don't Panic.** There is time. Enter your disarm code (carefully) to reset your system. Remember, if there were a burglar, he or she would not know your code. Do not write it on your keypad!
- 2) **Wait for your alarm company or central station to call.** Give your password or ID code, this is different from your disarm code. Be sure to follow all procedures established by your monitoring station.
- 3) **Do not leave your home** until you have talked with your monitoring station.
- 4) **Finally, any person who has keys to your property MUST be able to operate the alarm.** Neighbors, cleaning personnel, real estate agents, guests, relatives, babysitters, service and delivery personnel who may enter your property must have a code to operate your system, and they must be practiced in its use. Depending on your security system, you can set up a different access code from your own personal one.



### Before you activate your alarm system

- Lock all protected doors and windows
- Educate alarm system users
- Have your security company check and service your system regularly
- Contact your authorized dealer if you have any apprehensions about your system
- Ask your authorized dealer about regular checks and routine maintenance
- Notify your security company if you plan any remodeling, including replacing doors or windows; hanging drywall; sanding floors; installing attic flooring or basement ceiling; changing phone systems; installing intercoms, siding, ceiling fans or skylights; fumigating; installing wiring for cable or other electronics, or installing anything near the system control panel or keypads.

