



FIRE ALARM - User Responsibilities – BS5839-1

What is weekly fire alarm testing and do I have to do it?

The guidance to test weekly comes from British Standard BS 5839. This is the standard that the UK government recommends should be followed with regards to fire alarm maintenance.

You could decide to test less frequently, however you would need to explain why you've deviated from BS 5839 to any investigating fire officers, should they pay a visit. Generally, your Fire Risk Assessment (legal requirement) should specify the frequency of your testing of the fire alarm.



How do you carry out a weekly fire alarm test?

Your 'responsible person' should carry out your weekly fire alarm test preferable at the same day and time each week. We suggest TESTING TUESDAY.

IF the fire alarm is monitored: Place the system on TEST with the monitoring station prior to testing using the TEST DESK. The system is LIVE and if you test the fire alarm without placing the system on test the Fire Brigade will potentially be inconvenienced.

In each weekly test, you should activate at least one fire alarm call-point (if re-settable) and check that the alarm sounds and the panel receives the signal. Each week you should test a different call-point.

Once you've performed a successful check, you can re-set your fire alarm panel (on the other hand, if you encounter a problem, contact Nova Security Protection.

Finally, record the test in your fire alarm log book, including the location of the call-point(s) that you tested.

Reset the fire panel and ensure that the monitoring station has successfully received a fire signal and a fire restore.



What should I do if something goes wrong with my fire alarm?

If your fire alarm goes wrong, for example:

- an alarm is sounding but there's no fire
- a light on your fire alarm panel says there is a fault

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- your fire alarm panel is beeping
- there's no power going to your fire alarm panel

then you must report it immediately to Nova Security Protection. This is because the system can't be considered to be 'adequately maintained' if there is a fault and you would therefore be non-compliant with fire alarm regulations.

We will attend site within 24 hours at the very latest.



We hope this guide has been useful to you but if you have any additional questions, please give our friendly team a call on [01604 631911](tel:01604631911) and they'll be happy to help.

