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> [Kidde](#) /

> [Kidde 5DCO Carbon Monoxide Detector User Manual](#)

Kidde 5DCO

Kidde 5DCO Carbon Monoxide Detector User Manual

Model: 5DCO

1. INTRODUCTION

The Kidde 5DCO Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detector is designed to provide continuous monitoring of carbon monoxide levels in your home. This device features a digital display for real-time CO concentration readings and an audible alarm to alert you to dangerous levels. It also includes an event memory function to recall the highest CO level detected. This manual provides essential information for proper installation, operation, and maintenance to ensure your safety.



Image: The Kidde 5DCO Carbon Monoxide Detector, an oval-shaped white device with a digital display and control buttons.

2. UNDERSTANDING CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)

Carbon monoxide is a highly toxic gas that is colorless, odorless, and tasteless, making it impossible to detect without a specialized device. It is produced by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels such as natural gas, propane, oil, wood, and coal. Common sources include malfunctioning furnaces, water heaters, gas stoves, fireplaces, and vehicle exhaust.

Exposure to carbon monoxide can lead to serious health issues, including headaches, dizziness, nausea, fatigue, and in severe cases, unconsciousness, brain damage, or death. Early detection is crucial for preventing CO poisoning.



Image: An infographic illustrating four key steps for carbon monoxide safety: setting up an alarm, servicing appliances, ensuring proper ventilation, and recognizing physical symptoms of CO poisoning.

Safety Guidelines:

- **Install CO Alarms:** Ensure CO detectors are installed on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas.
- **Service Appliances:** Have fuel-burning appliances (furnaces, water heaters, stoves) inspected annually by a qualified technician.
- **Ensure Ventilation:** Do not block vents or flues for stoves, fireplaces, or boilers. Proper airflow is essential.
- **Recognize Symptoms:** Be aware of the physical signs of carbon monoxide poisoning, such as headache, dizziness, nausea, and fatigue. If you suspect CO poisoning, evacuate immediately and seek fresh air.

3. PRODUCT FEATURES

The Kidde 5DCO Carbon Monoxide Detector offers the following features:

- **Digital Display:** Provides a clear, continuous reading of carbon monoxide levels in parts per million (ppm).
- **Peak Level Memory:** Allows you to view the highest CO concentration detected since the last reset, useful for monitoring intermittent exposure.
- **Test/Reset Button:** Enables easy testing of the alarm's functionality and resetting of the peak level memory.
- **Audible Alarm:** Emits a loud alarm sound when dangerous levels of CO are detected.
- **Battery Operated:** Powered by 3 AAA batteries, ensuring operation even during power outages.



Image: A close-up of the Kidde Carbon Monoxide Detector, highlighting the digital display area, test button, and speaker grilles.

4. INSTALLATION

4.1 Unpacking and Battery Installation

1. Carefully remove the detector from its packaging.
2. Locate the battery compartment on the back of the unit.
3. Insert the 3 AAA batteries (included) according to the polarity markings (+ and -).
4. Close the battery compartment securely. The unit should power on automatically.

4.2 Choosing a Location

Proper placement of your CO detector is critical for effective monitoring. Consider the following guidelines:

- **General Placement:** Install at least one CO detector on each level of your home, especially near sleeping areas and in rooms with fuel-burning appliances.
- **Breathing Height:** Since carbon monoxide mixes with air, detectors can be placed at any height. However, for optimal detection at breathing level, consider placing it at approximately 1.2 meters (4 feet) from the floor.
- **Avoid Obstructions:** Do not place the detector in dead air spaces, behind curtains, or near furniture that could block the sensor.
- **Environmental Factors:** Avoid placing the detector in direct sunlight, near heating/cooling vents, or in areas with high humidity (e.g., bathrooms).
- **Distance from Appliances:** Place the detector at least 1.5 meters (5 feet) away from fuel-burning appliances to avoid false alarms from initial startup fumes.

4.3 Mounting the Detector

The Kidde 5DCO can be mounted on a wall or placed on a tabletop.

- **Wall Mounting:** Use the provided screws and wall plugs to secure the mounting bracket to a wall. Then, attach the detector to the bracket.
- **Tabletop Placement:** For temporary or flexible placement, the detector can be placed on a flat, stable surface. Ensure it is not easily knocked over and is still in an optimal detection area.

4.4 Initial Test

After installation, perform an initial test to ensure the unit is functioning correctly:

1. Press and hold the "Test/Reset" button (often the top button).
2. The alarm should sound with a series of loud beeps, and the digital display may show a test pattern or a high CO reading temporarily.

3. Release the button. The alarm should stop, and the display should return to normal operation (typically '0' ppm).

5. OPERATION

5.1 Normal Operation

During normal operation, the digital display will typically show '0' ppm, indicating no detectable carbon monoxide. If CO is present, the display will show the current concentration in parts per million (ppm).



Image: A close-up view of a digital display, similar to that found on the Kidde 5DCO, showing numerical readings and control buttons.

5.2 Test Function

To test the alarm at any time, press and hold the 'Test/Reset' button. The alarm will sound, confirming its functionality. Release the button to stop the test.

5.3 Peak Level Display

To view the highest CO level recorded since the last reset, press the 'Peak Level' button (often the bottom button). The display will show the peak CO concentration. Press the button again or wait a few seconds for the display to return to current readings.

5.4 Alarm Conditions

The detector is programmed to alarm at specific CO concentrations and exposure durations:

- **30 ppm:** No alarm within 30 days.
- **50 ppm:** Alarms within 60-90 minutes.
- **100 ppm:** Alarms within 10-40 minutes.
- **300 ppm:** Alarms within 3 minutes.

When the alarm sounds, evacuate the premises immediately and call emergency services. Do not re-enter until

the area has been deemed safe by professionals.

6. MAINTENANCE

6.1 Regular Testing

Test your CO detector weekly or monthly by pressing the 'Test/Reset' button to ensure the alarm and electronics are functioning correctly.

6.2 Battery Replacement

The detector will emit a low battery warning (a chirp or message on the display) when the batteries need to be replaced. Replace all 3 AAA alkaline batteries annually. Lithium batteries may offer a longer lifespan, up to 5 years, but always refer to the manufacturer's recommendations for specific battery types.

6.3 Cleaning

Dust and debris can interfere with the detector's performance. Gently vacuum the vents and exterior of the unit monthly using a soft brush attachment. Do not use cleaning solvents or sprays directly on the detector.

6.4 End of Life

Carbon monoxide detectors have a limited lifespan, typically 7 years from the date of manufacture. After this period, the sensor's accuracy may degrade. The unit will indicate its end-of-life with a specific signal (e.g., a series of chirps or an 'End' message on the display). When this occurs, the entire unit must be replaced.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If your Kidde 5DCO detector exhibits unusual behavior, refer to the following common issues:

- **Alarm Sounds:** If the alarm sounds, immediately move to fresh air outdoors or open windows and doors. Call emergency services (fire department) and do not re-enter the premises until cleared by professionals.
- **Low Battery Warning (Chirp/Message):** Replace all 3 AAA batteries promptly. Refer to Section 6.2 for battery replacement instructions.
- **Fault Indicator (Error Message/Continuous Chirp):** If the unit displays an error code or chirps continuously outside of a low battery warning, the detector may be malfunctioning or has reached its end of life. Perform a test. If the issue persists, replace the unit.
- **No Display/Unit Off:** Check battery installation and ensure batteries are fresh. If the problem persists, the unit may be faulty and require replacement.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Model Number	5DCO
Power Source	3 x AAA Batteries (included)
Voltage	4.5 Volts
Alarm Type	Audible

Display Type	Digital
Sensor Lifespan	7 years
ASIN	B0030BEM0K
UPC	047871077830, 047871096305

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical assistance, please contact Kidde customer support. Details regarding specific warranty periods and service options can typically be found on the product packaging or the official Kidde website.

Manufacturer: Kidde

Website: www.kidde.com (Please check for your regional website)