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Universal Security Instruments 1204

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Model: USI-1204

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Universal Security Instruments Model 1204 Wire-In Smoke Alarm with Battery Backup. Please read these instructions thoroughly before installation and retain for future reference. This device is designed to detect smoke and provide an audible alarm to alert occupants of a potential fire hazard.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- **Battery Usage:** Use only specified batteries. Other battery types may cause improper operation. Constant exposure to high or low temperatures or high humidity may reduce battery life. Replace battery only with ALKALINE: EVEREADY ENERGIZER #522, DURACELL #MN1604, or CARBON-ZINC TYPE: EVEREADY #216, GOLD PEAK #1604P.
- **Testing:** Test the unit weekly for service.
- **Alarm Indication:** The horn beeps about once per minute when the battery needs replacement. A continuous horn indicates an alarm condition.
- **Radioactive Material:** This device contains radioactive material (1.0 microcurie Americium 241) under USNRC License #19-28643-01E. Do not attempt to open or tamper with the sealed chamber.
- **Interconnection:** This 120 VAC 60HZ 0.8A smoke alarm is designed for single and/or multiple station signaling. It is suitable for commercial residential multiple station smoke alarm applications and can interconnect with a maximum of 12 smoke alarms. Refer to the owner's manual for detailed interconnection instructions.
- **Dust Cover:** The alarm will not operate with the dust cover on. Remove the dust cover after installation.
- **Replacement Date:** The alarm should be replaced by the year 2030 (based on a manufacturing date of October 7, 2020).

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The USI-1204 is a wire-in smoke alarm featuring a battery backup for continuous operation during power outages. It is designed for easy installation and reliable smoke detection.



Image: Rear view of the USI-1204 smoke alarm, displaying critical information such as the model number (USI-1204), manufacturing date (2020OCT07), battery replacement guidelines, and a warning regarding the Americium 241 radioactive material. It also indicates the alarm replacement year as 2030.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The USI-1204 smoke alarm is designed for wire-in applications. For replacement installations, it is important to understand the components provided in the box.

- 1. Unboxing:** Upon unboxing, you will find the smoke alarm unit and a separate base plate with three bare wires (black, white, yellow). The alarm unit itself will have a connector attached.
- 2. Dust Cover Removal:** The new alarm unit comes with a dust cover. This cover must be removed before installation. The alarm will not operate with the dust cover in place.
- 3. Replacement Scenario:** If you are replacing an existing USI smoke alarm, you may not need the new base plate with bare wires. The new alarm module (the main circular part) is designed to connect directly to your existing, already-wired base plate on the ceiling.
- 4. Connecting the Alarm:**
 - Carefully twist and remove the new alarm module from the new base plate it came with.
 - Connect the new alarm module's connector to the corresponding connector on your existing ceiling-mounted base plate.
 - Twist the new alarm module onto the existing base plate until it is securely in place.
- 5. New Installation Scenario:** If you are performing a new installation, the provided base plate with bare wires will need to be wired into your household electrical system. Consult a qualified electrician if you are unsure about electrical wiring procedures.

6. **Battery Activation:** The unit comes with a factory-installed battery with a quick activation pull tab. Ensure this tab is pulled to activate the battery backup.

Note: A common point of confusion during replacement is that the new unit's base plate with bare wires may not match the existing ceiling connector. The key is to use only the new alarm module and connect it to the pre-existing wired base plate.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

- **Power-Up:** Once properly installed and connected to power, the smoke alarm will perform a self-test.
- **Test Button:** Press and hold the test button on the front of the alarm to verify proper operation. The alarm should sound loudly. Test weekly.
- **Alarm Indication:** In the event of smoke detection, the alarm will emit a loud, continuous horn sound.
- **Silence Feature:** If the alarm sounds due to a non-emergency condition (e.g., cooking smoke), you can press the silence button to temporarily quiet the alarm. The alarm will reset after a few minutes if the smoke clears.

MAINTENANCE

- **Weekly Testing:** Test your smoke alarm weekly by pressing the test button.
- **Battery Replacement:** The alarm will chirp approximately once per minute when the battery backup needs to be replaced. To replace the battery:
 - a. Push and lift the latch to open the battery compartment door.
 - b. Remove the old battery.
 - c. Insert a new 9-volt alkaline battery (Eveready Energizer #522, Duracell #MN1604) or carbon-zinc battery (Eveready #216, Gold Peak #1604P), observing polarity.
 - d. Close the battery compartment door securely.
 - e. Test the alarm after battery replacement.
- **Cleaning:** Dust and debris can affect the alarm's performance. Gently vacuum the exterior of the alarm monthly using a soft brush attachment. Do not paint the alarm.
- **Alarm Replacement:** Smoke alarms have a limited lifespan. This alarm should be replaced by the year 2030. Refer to the manufacturing date (2020OCT07) on the back of the unit.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Alarm chirps once per minute.	Low battery.	Replace the 9-volt battery.
Alarm sounds continuously.	Smoke detected or unit malfunction.	Investigate source of smoke. If no smoke, press silence button. If alarm persists, replace unit.
Alarm does not sound during test.	No power, dead battery, or unit malfunction.	Check power connection, replace battery, or replace unit. Ensure dust cover is removed.
New alarm unit does not fit existing base plate.	Attempting to use the new base plate instead of the alarm module.	Remove the new alarm module from its packaging base plate and connect it to your existing ceiling-mounted base plate.

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** USI-1204
- **Power Source:** 120 VAC, 60 Hz, 0.8A (Wire-In) with 9V Battery Backup
- **Sensor Type:** Ionization
- **Alarm Type:** Visual (LED indicator) and Audible (Horn)
- **Interconnection:** Up to 12 compatible smoke alarms
- **Manufacturer:** Universal Security Instruments
- **Color:** White
- **Unit Count:** 4 Pack (as per product listing)
- **Manufacturing Date:** 2020OCT07
- **Recommended Replacement:** By 2030

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Universal Security Instruments products are designed for reliability. For specific warranty details, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Universal Security Instruments website. For technical support or further assistance, contact Universal Security Instruments customer service.