

Memo-Servicing & Technical Info

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New Edition of BS5839-6 : Principal Changes

Summary of main changes in the new version of BS5839-6 : 2019

This part of BS 5839 supersedes BS 5839-6 : 2013, which is withdrawn.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard, and introduces the following:

Re: Grades of system, Section 7 **page 13**

Removal of Grade B and Grade E i.e. 'not currently defined'.

Subdivision of Grade D and Grade F into Grade D1/Grade D2 and Grade F1/Grade F2, respectively

Revision of Table 1 **page 23**

Specifically: owner occupied (2-3 storey) Grade D2 note d: *Heat detectors should be installed in every kitchen. A smoke detector should be installed in the principal habitable room (see 3.47). Where more than one room might be used as the principal habitable room, a smoke detector should be installed in each of these rooms.*

Updating of guidance to take into account the publication of BS 5839-1:2017 and other standards published since the last full revision of BS 5839-6

New table on testing and servicing by grade; i.e. table 3 **page 63**

Table 3 highlights:

All systems, other than Grade A systems (weekly), should be tested at least monthly.

In the case of smoke alarms and any heat alarms, this test may be carried out by use of a test button on each of the smoke alarms, heat alarms and multi-sensor alarms installed in the premises.

If a fire alarm has no test button, assistance with testing should be sought from a fire service company. In case of linked alarms, the "one alarm, all alarm" feature must be verified. The alarm should be visually inspected, and any defects should be noted for action.

New recommendation to prevent blocking or delaying of fire alarm signals transmitted via social alarm systems in sheltered housing to an alarm receiving centre: **see 9.2 (f)**

Increase in the recommended standard of protection in sheltered housing flats from Category LD2 to Category LD1

New recommendations for fire detection in supported housing

New recommendation that communal fire alarm systems should **not** normally be installed in purpose-built blocks of flats

Revised and expanded recommendations for Grade C.

All categories: alarms should not be installed within toilets, bathrooms or shower rooms