

When wildfire smoke causes unhealthy air quality, it is best to remain indoors, with your air conditioning on, as much as possible. Even with windows closed, wildfire smoke can seep into your home. You can make a “do-it-yourself” room filtration system with items from your local hardware store and use this in your home to cut down on the indoor air particulates from smoke.

How to Build an Inexpensive Room Filter

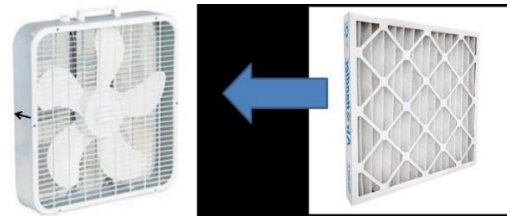
1. Shopping list:

- 20” inch 3-speed box fan. Retail at \$20-\$25.
- 20” x 20” x 1” Air Filter with at least a **MERV-13 rating**. Retail at \$15-\$20.
 - Note that you can use up to 3 filters per fan
- Duct tape



2. Use the duct tape to attach the 20” x 20” x 1” air filter to the back of the fan.

There are arrows marked on the filter to indicate the proper direction for airflow. The arrows should point towards the fan.



3. Check the filter: You can tell when it’s time to change the filter by its color - as dust and particulates get caught in the filter, it will turn from white to brown.



CONSULT YOUR PHYSICIAN: If you or a family member have heart or lung disease, if you are an older adult, or if you have children, talk with your doctor about whether and when you should leave the area when air quality is unhealthy.

Visit the Mariposa County Air Quality Index website for more information:

<http://www.mariposacounty.org/index.aspx?nid=1434>