



# Fire Extinguisher Safety

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# Types of Fires



**FIRE = Fuel + Heat + Oxygen**

**Elimination of any one of these distinguishes the fire!**

- **Class A Fires** are fires in **ordinary combustibles** such as **wood, paper, trash, cloth & plastics**.
- **Class B Fires** are **flammable liquids** such as **gasoline, petroleum oil & paint**. They also include flammable gas such as **propane & butane**.
- **Class C Fires** are fires involving **energized electrical equipment** such as **motors, transformers and appliances**.
- **Class D Fires** are **combustible metals** such as **potassium, sodium, aluminum & magnesium**.
- **Class K Fires** are fires in **cooking oils and greases** such as **animal fats and vegetable fats**.

# Types of Fire Extinguishers

There are many different kinds of fire extinguishers Water & Foam, Carbon Dioxide, Dry Chemical, Wet Chemical, Clean Agent, Dry Powder & Water Mist.



The most common is a **Dry Chemical Fire Extinguisher** which is most effective on Class A, B & C fires. It is important to use the right kind of fire extinguisher for the type of fuel. The wrong kind can ignite the fire even more.



# The Rules For Fighting Fires

- **Activate** the building alarm system or the fire department by calling 911.
- **Assist** any persons in immediate danger, to exit the building, without risk to yourself.
- Only after these two things should you **Attempt** to extinguish the fire.



- If the fire is small and contained use the fire extinguisher, if it starts to grow exit the building.
- If the fire is producing large amounts of thick, black smoke or chemical smoke it is best to exit the building. Remember that all fires produce carbon monoxide that could be fatal.
- You should always fight a fire with your means of escape towards your back. You may need to get out quickly and will need a clear path to escape.
- Listen to your instincts! If your not comfortable fighting the fire then you should get out.



# Fire Extinguisher Use

- Fire extinguishers can be heavy so it's a good idea to practice picking up and holding the extinguisher to get an idea of the weight and feel.
- Take time to read the operating instructions and warning found on the fire extinguisher label. Not all fire extinguishers look alike.
- Practice releasing the discharging hose or horn aiming it at the base of an imagined flame. Do not pull the pin or squeeze the lever. This will break the extinguisher seal and cause it to lose pressure.

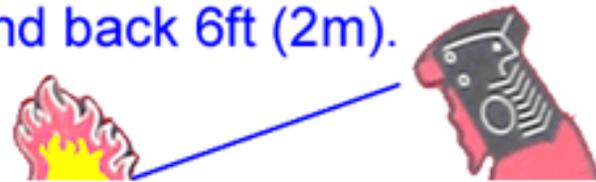
# Basic Instructions



1. Pull pin.  
2. Hold unit upright.



2. Aim at base of fire.  
3. Stand back 6ft (2m).



3. Press trigger.  
4. Sweep side to side.

