

FIRES

EXTINGUISHERS, SAFETY, PREVENTION & CLASSIFICATION OF FIRES

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

The Fire Department & School Police should be notified without delay as soon as any fire is discovered.

Portable fire extinguishers are for immediate use on small fires. They contain a limited amount of extinguishing material and need to be used properly so that this material is not wasted.

You are not required to fight a fire. Ever. If you have the slightest doubt about your control of the situation DO NOT FIGHT THE FIRE. Attempt to use an extinguisher only if **ALL** of the following apply:

- ☑ The building is being evacuated (fire alarm is pulled)
- ☑ The fire department is being called (**dial 911**).
- ☑ The fire is small, contained and not spreading beyond its starting point.
- ☑ The exit is clear, there is no imminent peril and you can fight the fire with your back to the exit.
- ☑ You can stay low and avoid smoke.
- ☑ The proper extinguisher is immediately at hand.
- ☑ You have read the instructions and know how to use the extinguisher.



P A S S -- Pull, Aim, Squeeze, and Sweep

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Fire safety

Safe Storage

- Limit the amount of combustible materials present.
- Do not store materials in or near heat producing equipment such as boiler rooms, electrical rooms, heaters/personal space heaters, mug warmers...
- Maintain adequate space below ceilings – Materials cannot be within 18 inches of the ceiling in buildings with fire sprinkler protection. The distance is increased to 24 inches in non-sprinklered buildings.
- Maintain aisle widths to allow for unimpeded exiting.
- Do not block fire suppression equipment such as extinguishers.
- Do not store or post combustible materials at or near exits.

Be Kitchen Wise

- Know the location of all fire suppression equipment in your work areas such as extinguishers, alarm pull stations, & fire blankets.
- Wear tight-fitting or rolled-up sleeves when cooking.
- Use oven mitts to handle hot pans.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- If a pan of food catches fire, slide a lid over it and turn off the burner.

Stop, Drop, and Roll

- If your clothing catches on fire: Stop (don't run), drop gently to the ground, cover your face with your hands and roll over and over to smother the flames.
- If you cannot do that, smother the flames with a towel or blanket.
- Immerse burns in cool water for 10 to 15 minutes.
- If burns are severe, get medical help immediately.

Plan and Practice Your Escape from Fire

- Know two ways out of every room.
- Make sure windows and doors open easily.
- In a fire, get out and stay out.

Know Your Local Emergency Number

- Remember the number for emergencies is 9-1-1.
- Once you've escaped a fire, call the fire department.

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Fires are classified into five (5) classes



Class A

A fire extinguisher labeled with **letter "A"** is for use on Class A fires. Class A fires are fires that involve ordinary combustible materials such as cloth, wood, paper, rubber, and many plastics.



Class B

A fire extinguisher labeled with **letter "B"** is for use on Class B fires. Class B fires are fires that involve flammable and combustible liquids such as gasoline, alcohol, diesel oil, oil-based paints, lacquers, etc., and flammable gases.



Class C

A fire extinguisher labeled with **letter "C"** is for use on Class C fires. Class C fires are fires that involve energized electrical equipment.



Class D

A fire extinguisher labeled with **letter "D"** is for use on Class D fires. Class D fires are fires that involve combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium and sodium.



Class K

A fire extinguisher labeled with **letter "K"** is for use on Class K fires. Class K fires are fires that involve vegetable oils, animal oils, or fats in cooking appliances. This is for commercial kitchens, including those found in restaurants, cafeterias, and caterers.

