



Fire Extinguishers

If a fire started in your home or workplace, would you know how to fight it? Your knowledge of how to use a fire extinguisher could be crucial to your safety and the safety of others. Read further to learn how to properly use a fire extinguisher to fight fires.

Guidelines for Fire Extinguishers:

- Fire extinguishers should never be blocked, meaning that 36 inches on each side of the fire extinguisher should be free of furniture, boxes, etc. to make it easy to access.
- Only use a fire extinguisher if you know how, and are comfortable using one.
- *Never try to extinguish a fire if:*
 - ◊ The fire has spread beyond the point where it was ignited.
 - ◊ The fire is blocking your only escape.
 - ◊ You can't fight the fire while your back is facing an exit.
 - ◊ You don't have the proper equipment for fighting a fire.



How to Use a Fire Extinguisher (PASS):

- 1) **Pull** the safety pin to break the seal.
- 2) **Aim** the nozzle low, pointing it at the base of the fire.
- 3) **Squeeze** the handle to spray the extinguishing agent.
- 4) **Sweep** the extinguisher from side to side, while still pointing at the base of the fire, until the fire is put out.

Watch the fire to make sure it doesn't re-ignite. If it does, repeat steps 2-4.

Resources

[Clark College Fire Safety Bulletin](#)

[OSHA: Fire Extinguisher Use](#)

[Fire Extinguishers in the Workplace](#)

[Fire Extinguishers at Home](#)

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Don't learn safety by accident