

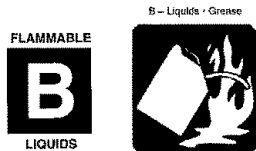
Match your extinguisher to the fire

There are three common classes of fire in the home. Your extinguisher must match the type of fire that could occur. Extinguishers are labeled with standard symbols or letters for the classes of fire they can put out.

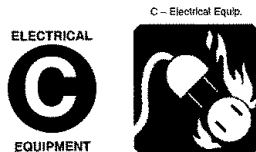
Class A fires involve paper, wood, and other ordinary combustibles.



Class B fires involve flammable liquids, such as oil, some paints, and gasoline.



Class C fires involve energized electrical equipment, such as power tools, wiring, fuse boxes, appliances, TVs, computers and electric motors.



A multipurpose extinguisher labeled A, B, and C may be used on all three classes of fire.

Extinguishers labeled only for Class A fires contain water and are dangerous if used on cooking oil or electrical fires.

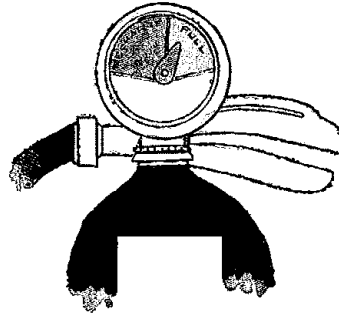
A red slash through any of the fire class-symbols on an extinguisher label tells you the extinguisher cannot be used on that class of fire.

A missing symbol means only that the extinguisher hasn't been tested for that class of fire.

Choosing extinguishers by size

Portable extinguishers are rated for the size of fire they can handle. Ratings appear on the label — for example, 2-A:10-B:C.

The larger the number, the bigger the fire the unit can handle. Bigger models are usually heavier. Be sure you can handle the extinguisher you buy.



For further information contact:

Edmonton Fire Rescue Services
Fire Prevention
10565 – 105 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 2W8

Phone: (780) 496-3850
Fax: (780) 496-3853
www.edmonton.ca/EmergencyServices



October 2004
Front photo courtesy
of Edmonton Sun

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Fire Extinguishers

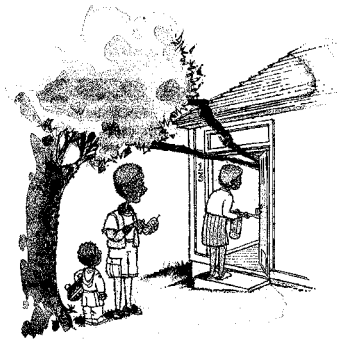
Portable fire extinguishers can save lives and property by containing or putting out small fires.



Fighting small fires

Before you fight a fire, be sure that...

- Everyone else has left and someone is calling the fire department.
- The fire is small, confined, and not spreading (a trash can fire for example).
- You have an unobstructed escape route.
- Your extinguisher matches the fire.

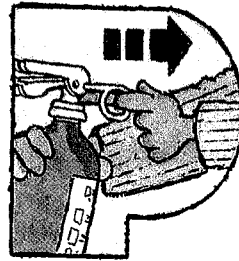


Keep your back to a clear exit and stand six to eight feet (two to three metres) away from the fire.

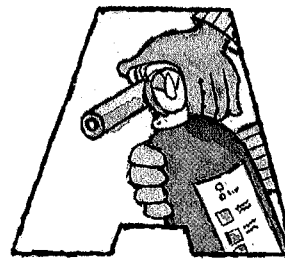
“Four Questions you must answer before you use an Extinguisher

1. What kind of fuel is on fire? (Please see the “Match your extinguisher to the fire” page)
2. What Kind of extinguisher will put our this fire? A **2A 10BC** multipurpose rated extinguisher is most often recommended.
3. Where is this extinguisher located in your home. It should be located by an exit so that after you have used it, you can still escape out the exit if the fire is too large. Do not store this in hard to find locations, or places that further trap you in the building.
4. How do you use this extinguisher? (Please see the “PASS” sequence, next)”

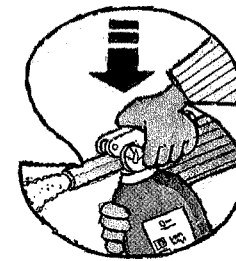
To operate your extinguisher, remember the acronym **PASS**.



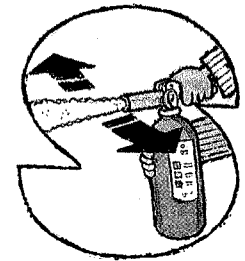
P — Pull the pin that unlocks the operating lever. (Some models may have other lever-release mechanisms.)



A — Aim low. Point the extinguisher nozzle or hose at the base of the fire.



S — Squeeze the lever above the handle to discharge the extinguishing agent. To stop the discharge, release the lever. (Some models may have a button instead of a lever.)



S — Sweep the nozzle or hose from side to side. Moving carefully toward the flames, keep the extinguisher aimed at the base of the fire and sweep back and forth.

Read the manufacturer’s instructions and be familiar with your extinguisher before you have to use it.

Once the fire goes out, watch the fire area and be prepared to repeat the process if the fire re-ignites.

Have the fire department inspect the fire site — even if you’re sure you’ve extinguished the fire.

