



How to Use a Portable Fire Extinguisher

PULL the pin at the top of the extinguisher. The pin releases a locking mechanism and will allow you to discharge the extinguisher.

AIM at the base of the fire, not the flames. This is important – in order to put out the fire, you must extinguish the fuel.

SQUEEZE the lever slowly, this will release the extinguishing agent in the extinguisher. If the handle is released, the discharge will stop.

SWEEP from side to side. Using a sweeping motion, move the fire extinguisher back and forth until the fire is completely out. Operate the extinguisher from a safe distance, several feet away, and then move towards the fire once it starts to diminish. Be sure to read the instructions on your fire extinguisher – different fire extinguishers recommend operating them from different distances. Remember: Aim at the base of the fire, not at the flames!!

Remember!









Always operate extinguisher in an upright position. Aim at the base of the fire.

REMEMBER THE ACRONYM when operating a portable extinguisher:

PASS – Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep

Most fire extinguisher types for home use are A, B, and C.

REMEMBER TO DIAL 9-1-1

FIRE TYPE	EXTINGUISHING	
	AGENT	METHOD
ORDINARY SOLID MATERIALS  	Water Foam Dry chemical	Removes heat Removes air and heat Breaks chain reaction
FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS  	Foam CO ₂ Dry Chemical Halon	Removes air Breaks chain reaction
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT  	CO ₂ Dry Chemical Halon	Removes air Breaks chain reaction