#### **How to Prevent Fires**

#### **Class A — Ordinary combustibles:**

- Keep Storage and working areas free of trash.
- Place oily rags in covered containers.

#### **Class B** — Flammable liquids:

- Don't refuel gasoline powered equipment in a confined space, stored in tightly closed, self closing, spill proof containers.
- Store away from spark producing sources.

#### **Class C** — Electrical equipment

- Dont overload wall outlets.
- Keep motors clean and in good working order.
- Utility lights should always have some type of wire guard over them. Heat from an uncovered light bulb can easily ignite.
- Investigate any appliance or electrical equipment that smells strange. Unusual odors can be the first sign of fire.

# When NOT to fight a Fire

- If the fire is spreading beyond the spot where it started.
- If you can't fight the fire with your back to an escape exit.
- If the fire can block your only escape.

# Don't fight the fire by yourself

#### **Fire Extinguisher Location**

Have one extinguisher on each floor of your home

Keep them in plain sight and no more than five feet above the floor

Do not put them in closets

Even though a fire extinguisher may not match your decor do not put it behind curtains or drapes

The most important places to have fire extinguishers are in areas that are more susceptible to fire KITCHEN and GARAGE.



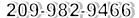
Nor Cal Fire, Inc 22600 N Ripon Road Ripon, CA 95366 209-982-9466 www.norcalfire.net



# Fire Extinguisher Information



209-982-9466



# **Fire Extinguisher: 101**

A fire extinguisher is an absolute necessity in any home or office. While there is a good change that the extinguisher will sit on the wall for years, collecting dust. It could end up saving your property and even your life. The main reason for Fire Extinguisher is to protect your way out. Here is some helpful information on Fire Extinguishers.

# **The Fire Triangle**

In order to understand how fire extinguisher work, you first need to know a little bit about fires.

Three things must be present at the same time in order to produce fire.

- 1. Enough **Oxygen** to sustain combustion.
- 2. Enough **Heat** to raise the material to its ignition temperature.
- 3. Some sort of **Fuel** or combustible material.



This will create a **Chemical Reaction** that is fire



# **Types of Fire Extinguishers**

Its very important to understand the four different fire classifications. If you use the wrong type of fire extinguisher on the wrong class of fire you can make matters worse.

# Class A—Wood, Paper, Clothes, Trash Plastics

Solid combustible materials that are not metals. Class A fires generally leave Ash,

## Class B—Flammable Liquids: Gasoline, Oil, Grease, Acetone.

Any non-metal in a liquid state on fire. This classification also includes flammable gases. Class B fires generally involve materials that Boil or Bubble.

## Class C—Electrical Energized Electrical Equipment

As long as it's "plugged in", it would be considered a Class C fire. Class C fire generally deal with electrical Current.

# Class D—Metals: Potassium, Sodium, Aluminum, Magnesium

Unless you work in a laboratory or in an industry that uses these materials, it is unlikely you'll have do deal with a Class D fire. It takes a special extinguishing agents (Metal-X foam, to fight such a fire.





209-982-9466

# **Using a Fire Extinguisher**

It's easy to remember how to use a fire extinguisher. If you can remember the acronym PASS which stands for **Pull Aim Squeeze and Sweep** 

**HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHE** 



Pull the pin. This will allow you to discharge the extinguisher.

Aim at the base of the fire. If you aim a the flames (which is frequently the temptation) the extinguishing agent will fly right through and do no good. You want to hit the fuel.

## Squeeze the top handle or lever.

This depreses a button that releases the pressurized extinguishing agent in the extinguishers.

**Sweep from side to side** until the fire is completely out. Start using the extinguisher from a safe distance away, keep an eye on the area in case it re-ignites.

Always read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher