

FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTIONS

Did you know that OSHA requires employers to inspect all portable fire extinguishers on a monthly basis?

These inspections do not need to be conducted by a licensed extinguisher maintenance contractor. Monthly inspections should be conducted by the extinguisher owner (employer) or other trained personnel. Regular inspections ensure that the extinguisher will be readily accessible and operate properly in the event of an emergency. If your fire extinguisher is not working properly, now is the time to find out, not in the middle of a fire.

See the reverse side for an inspection checklist. Always check with the fire extinguisher manufacturer for their inspection and maintenance recommendations. Any issues identified during the inspection should be corrected immediately, and the corrective actions documented at the bottom of the checklist.



Extinguisher Type	Requirements	Frequency
Pressurized Water or Wet Chemical	Visual Inspection	Monthly
	Maintenance / Examination*	Annually
	Hydrostatic Testing*	Every 5 Years
Dry Chemical	Visual Inspection	Monthly
	Maintenance / Examination*	Annually
	Periodic Maintenance*	Every 6 Years
	Hydrostatic Testing*	Every 12 Years

*To be completed by fire extinguisher maintenance contractor



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MONTHLY FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Inspected By: _____

Inspection Date: _____

Location: _____

Serial #/Model: _____

GENERAL INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO
Is the pin in place and the tamper seal intact?		
Is the fire extinguisher charged (pressure indicator is in the “green zone”) and full (extinguisher has some heft to it when lifted)?		
Are all labels and operating instructions legible and facing outward?		
Are the nozzle and hose free of cracks and clogging? <i>(NOTE: Yellow or white powder inside of the nozzle/hose could indicate a leak.)</i>		
Is the extinguisher free of debris/dust, corrosion, and any other physical damage?		
Is there a 3-foot clearance in front of and around the fire extinguisher?		
Is the fire extinguisher easily accessible (properly mounted, high visibility, unobstructed path to the extinguisher, etc.) and in its designated location?		
Was a professional inspection conducted within the last 12 months? <i>(NOTE: This inspections must be conducted by a licensed fire extinguisher contractor. Please contact your extinguisher contractor if annual service has not been performed within the past 12 months.)</i>		
For dry chemical extinguishers, invert the extinguisher and shake to redistribute the powder and prevent it from caking. Sign and date on the back of the inspection tag by the corresponding month.		
If you answered “No” to any of the above questions, please list the corrective actions taken to correct the identified problem; <i>(i.e. took fire extinguisher out of service, contacted fire extinguisher contractor, etc. Please include dates and any other relevant details.)</i>		