

# FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

An unwanted fire occurs every 10 seconds. Knowing how to properly select and use fire extinguishers can help protect your workplace, home and the lives of those you love.



## PLACING FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

- Have at least **one** fire extinguisher on **each level** of your home.
- **Don't** keep them in closets, blocked by other objects, or close to heat sources.
- Keep fire extinguishers near the **exits**.
- Install them where there is the greatest risk for fire, like the **kitchen** and garage.

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- **Size** – Can you easily pick up or move the fire extinguisher?
- **Clear instructions** – Do you understand the extinguisher's instructions?
- **Storability** – Will you be able to secure it in a removed, but accessible location?

## USING A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

If you've never used a fire extinguisher, your local fire department may offer training programs.



## SHOULD YOU FIGHT THE FIRE?

### ONLY IF:

- The fire is small and contained to a single object or area.
- Everyone else has evacuated the building.
- The fire department has been called.
- You are safe from smoke produced by the fire.
- You can safely get out of the building.

### BUT NOT IF:

- The fire has produced a lot of heat, smoke, or fumes.
- The fire may trap you inside.
- You're unable to handle the extinguisher or you don't know how to work it.
- Your extinguisher is not rated for the type of fire you're fighting.
- Your instincts tell you to get out of the building.

## KNOW YOUR FIRE EXTINGUISHERS ABCS

### DIFFERENT FIRES REQUIRE DIFFERENT EXTINGUISHERS

- **Class A** – Used for fires in common combustibles, including wood, paper, and cloth.
- **Class B** – For fires involving flammable liquids, like oil, gasoline, and grease.
- **Class C** – For electrical fires, those involving appliances, wiring, or outlets.
- **Class D** – Used in laboratories or factories for fires involving flammable metals.
- **Class K** – Used in commercial kitchens for fires involving fats or oils in cooking appliances.
- **Multi-purpose extinguishers** – These may be labeled A-B-C or B-C and are appropriate for two or more of the above fire types.



## REMEMBER THE P.A.S.S. WORD

### STAND 6 TO 8 FEET FROM THE FIRE AND:



- P** **Pull** the pin with the nozzle pointed away from you.
- A** **Aim** the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- S** **Squeeze** the handle.
- S** **Sweep** the extinguisher from side to side until the fire goes out.



**WHEN IN DOUBT – JUST GET OUT!**