

Before attempting to fight a fire with an extinguisher check the extinguisher's suitability with the class of fire.

Fire Extinguishers are for small fires. Don't endanger yourself or your colleagues by attempting to fight a fire too close or too big.

Maintain a distance of at least 2m from fire.

Remember the **PASS-word** for using a portable fire extinguisher.

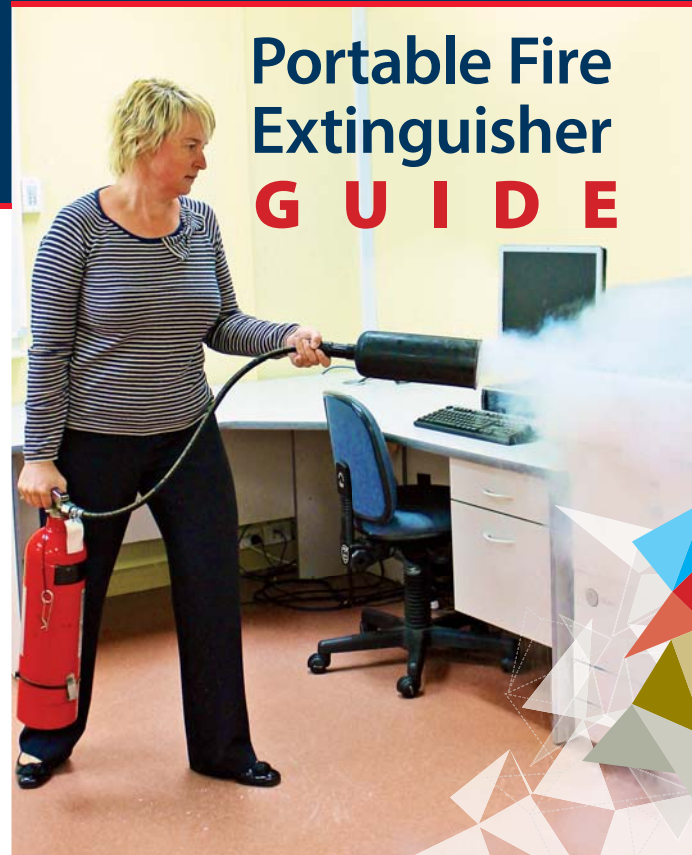
PULL the safety pin, check the gauge, test away from the fire.

AIM the nozzle at the base of the flames.

SQUEEZE the handle to start the extinguisher.















SWEEP extinguisher from side to side until the fire is extinguished.

If you have used an extinguisher, you should arrange to have it recharged immediately.



Portable Fire Extinguisher GUIDE

TYPE OF FIRE, CLASS AND SUITABILITY

Two colour schemes for fire extinguishers exist.			A	B	C	E	F	D	Comments	
Pre-1997	Current	Extinguishing Agent	Wood Paper Plastic	Flammable & Combustible Liquids	Flammable Gases	Electrically Energised Equipment	Cooking Oils and Fats	Metal Fires		
		Water	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	Use only special purpose extinguishers and seek expert advice.	Dangerous if used on flammable liquid, energised electrical equipment and cooking oil/fat fires.	
		Wet Chemical	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES		Dangerous if used on energised electrical equipment.	
		Foam*	YES	YES	NO	NO	LIMITED		Dangerous if used on energised electrical equipment.	
		Powder	(ABE)	YES	YES	YES	YES		NO	Look carefully at the extinguisher to determine if it is a BE or ABE unit as the capability is different.
			(BE)	NO	YES	YES	YES		YES	
		Carbon Dioxide	LIMITED	LIMITED	NO	YES	NO		Not suitable for outdoor use or smouldering deep-seated A Class Fires. Suitable for small fires only.	
		Vaporising Liquid	YES	LIMITED	LIMITED	YES	NO		Check the characteristics of the specific extinguishing agent.	
		Fire Blanket	LIMITED*	LIMITED	NO	NO	YES		* Fire Blankets may be used as a thermal barrier against radiated heat and to control a fire in clothes being worn by a person.	
		Fire Hose Reel	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		Maximum length of hose is 36m.	

■ The class in which the agent is most effective.

■ Not recommend for this class of fires.

LIMITED The Extinguishant is not the agent of choice for the class of fire, but it may have a limited extinguishing capability.

* Solvents such as alcohol or acetone mix with water and therefore require special foam.