



KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Fire Extinguishers

It is important to review the types, uses, and how to safely use fire extinguishers. Having proper training can save lives and prevent property damage.

Regularly inspect that the fire extinguishers are charged and strategically located around the worksite. Make sure the correct type of extinguisher is being used at each location based on the type of work being done. Everyone has a responsibility to check to see that fire extinguishers, fire hoses and other fire prevention devices are not blocked.

There are multipurpose fire extinguishers that cover classes A - C but the five primary classes are for specific types of fires:

- Type A is used for materials like wood, paper, and cloth
- Type B is used for flammable or combustible liquids such as grease, gasoline, and oil (including oil based paints)
- Type C is used for electrical equipment like tools, equipment, and appliances
- Type D is used for flammable metals; most common Class D fires involve magnesium, titanium, and lithium
- Type K is used for kitchen oils and fats like in a deep fryer

*Remember **PASS** when using an extinguisher:*

- ✓ **P**ull the pin to release the locking device with nozzle pointing towards the fire.
- ✓ **A**im at for the base of the fire.
- ✓ **S**queeze the handle.
- ✓ **S**weep spray from side to side.

Additional thoughts:

- Am I safe and clear from toxic smoke?
- Do I have an escape route?
- Do I have access to and know how to use a fire extinguisher?
- Should I alert other workers in the area and call 911?

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.150

Signatures

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