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EC63-2112 Revised 1963 Know your Fire Extinguisher...

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Three things are necessary to start a fire. They are heat, oxygen, and fuel. Take any one of the three away and the fire will not burn. It is with this knowledge that we select fire extinguishing equipment for the various classes of fires.

Fires are divided into 3 general classes—A, B, and C.

Class A fires include combustible solids such as buildings, hay, feed, straw, trees, brush, and many items of furniture.

Class B fires include flammable liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, paints, paint thinners, some solvents, and specific agricultural chemicals.

Class C fires include all electrical equipment or any fire involving danger of electrical shock.

It is important that people know the proper extinguisher to buy for the class of fire they might have to fight. Different extinguishers are designed for use on different fires. Their improper application can lead to personal injury or failure to extinguish the fire.

Kinds of Extinguishers

Four extinguishers may be used on Class A fires. They are: 1. Soda Acid, 2. Foam, 3. Pump Tank or loaded stream, and 4. Dry Chemical. Dry chemical works with good success, but may need water as an aid. Homemade devices such as garden hose, pail, broom, wet sacks, may also be used.

Three Class B fire extinguishers are available. They are: 1. Dry Chemical, 2. Carbon Dioxide, and 3. Foam. Baking soda and earth may also be used on these fires.

Two Class C fire extinguishers are available. They are: 1. Dry Chemical, 2. Carbon Dioxide. Baking soda and earth are also good extinguishing agents. It is a good idea to shut off the electric power when fighting a Class C fire. DO NOT USE WATER ON CLASS C FIRES.

Extinguisher Care

Water extinguishers, including foam, may freeze. Dry powder and carbon dioxide need no winter protection. Extinguishers should be inspected and recharged periodically, at least once yearly.

Location of Extinguishers

1. Entry of house needs water for use in house.
2. Kitchen needs dry chemical or carbon dioxide.
3. Entry to basement needs dry chemical or carbon dioxide.
4. Garage needs dry chemical or carbon dioxide.
5. Barn needs water, dry chemical, carbon dioxide.
6. Hay mow needs water.
7. Equipment should have dry chemical, carbon dioxide, or shovel for throwing dirt or sand.
# Fire Extinguisher Types and Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extinguisher Effect</th>
<th>Water Extinguishers</th>
<th>Water and Chemical Extinguishers</th>
<th>Dry Chemical</th>
<th>Carbon Dioxide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooling</td>
<td>Cooling</td>
<td>Cooling</td>
<td>Cooling &amp; Smothering</td>
<td>Smothering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective with:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A fires of Class</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Operate:</td>
<td>Pump by hand</td>
<td>Aim at fire depress handle</td>
<td>Turn over</td>
<td>Squeeze handle on top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Discharge</td>
<td>30 to 40 feet</td>
<td>30 to 40 feet</td>
<td>30 to 40 feet</td>
<td>8 to 12 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recharge</td>
<td>After use</td>
<td>After use or after use</td>
<td>Annually or after use</td>
<td>Annually or after use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection from Freezing</td>
<td>Approved anti-freeze chemicals may be added to water</td>
<td>Approved anti-freeze chemicals may be added to water</td>
<td>Keep in heated cabinet if building is unheated. Never add anti-freeze.</td>
<td>None needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Effective on small surface fires.