



# Fire Extinguishers for Your Home

## Classes of Extinguishers

- A** – Used on ordinary materials, such as cloth, paper, and wood.
- B** – Used on combustible and flammable liquids, such as grease, gasoline, oil, and oil-based paints.
- C** – Used on electrical equipment, such as appliances, tools, and other items that are plugged in.
- D** – Used with flammable metals and are found in factories.
- K** – Used on vegetable oils, animal oils, and fats in cooking appliances. These extinguishers are used in commercial kitchens, such as restaurants and cafeterias.

**Multi-purpose (A, B, C) extinguishers are often selected for home use.**

## Sizes of Extinguishers

The size of the extinguisher depends on its use. Common extinguishers can weigh from two to ten pounds.

- Ten-pound extinguishers are more appropriate in places where fire can spread in size more quickly. This size extinguisher would be good for a garage or workshop.
- Five-pound extinguishers can usually be stored in your kitchen or laundry room. Most home fires start in the kitchen. Store the extinguisher in a nearby pantry or cupboard.
- A two-pound extinguisher can be stored in your car.

## Using Fire Extinguishers

The National Fire Protection Association suggests remembering the acronym PASS.

**P = Pull** the pin and hold the extinguisher nozzle away from you.

**A = Aim** low by pointing at the base of the fire.

**S = Squeeze** the lever slowly and at a controlled pace.

**S = Sweep** the nozzle from side-to-side.

Read your fire extinguisher instructions for additional usage tips and maintenance instructions.