



# Rutherford County Government

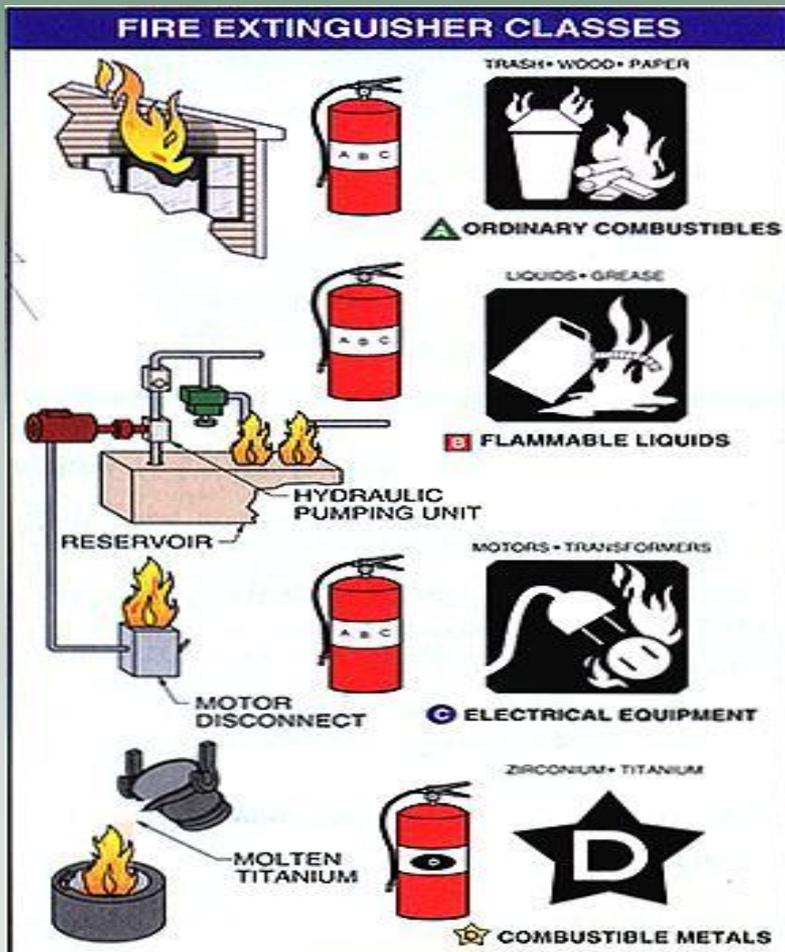
## Portable Fire Extinguishers





# Extinguisher Markings

There are 4 class types of Extinguishers



- Class A - Ordinary
- Class B - Flammables
- Class C - Electrical
- Class D - Metals



# Class A Rating

**Class A** extinguishers are for ordinary combustible materials such as paper, wood, cardboard, and most plastics. These extinguishers are filled with water and have a numerical rating indicating the amount of water it holds and the amount of fire it can extinguish.





# Class B Ratings

**Class B** fires involve flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, grease and oil. The contents of these extinguishers are in the form of a foam spray.

The numerical rating for these extinguishers indicate the approximate number of square feet of fire it can extinguish.





# Class C Rating

**Class C** fires involve electrical equipment, such as appliances, wiring, circuit breakers and outlets. The contents of these extinguishers are in the form of a powder spray. Never use water to extinguish electrical fires - the risk of electrical shock is far too great!





# Class D Rating

**Class D** fire extinguishers are commonly found in a chemical laboratory. They are for fires that involve combustible metals, such as magnesium, titanium, potassium and sodium. The content of these extinguishers consist of Sodium Chloride powder. They are designed for Class D fires only.





# Locate and Inspect

Take the time to locate the nearest fire extinguisher to your office or work area and visually inspect it once a month for the following:

1. Safety Pin is installed
2. Pressure gauge needle is in the green
3. Hose is attached and free of obstruction





# Extinguisher Markings

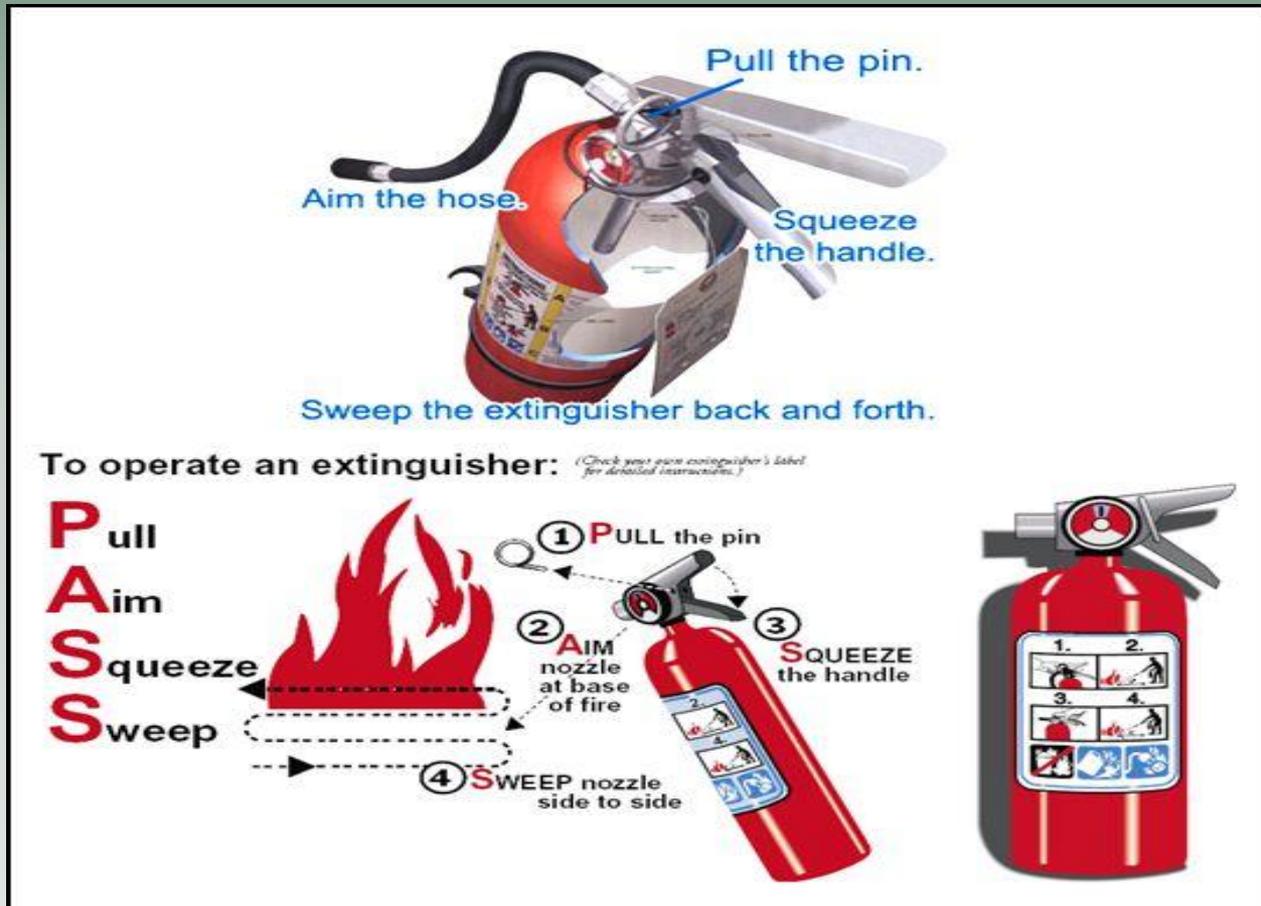
Most locations have general purpose fire extinguishers that can be used on Class A, B & C fires. These extinguishers have markings on the left side to indicate what fire class they can be used for.





# How to use a Fire Extinguisher

Just remember P.A.S.S





# How to use a fire extinguisher

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1. **Pull** the safety pin at the top of the extinguisher, breaking the plastic or thin seal in the process.





# How to use a fire extinguisher

2. Aim the nozzle or horn at the base of the fire.





# How to use a fire extinguisher

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- Squeeze** the carrying handle and the discharge handle together to start the flow of agent.





# How to use a fire extinguisher

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4. **Sweep** the nozzle back and forth. Move forward while sweeping the nozzle from side to side until fire is extinguished.





# Summary

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A portable extinguisher is a valuable tool to have available to use. Take the time to gain an understanding of their class ratings for correct application. In the event you need to use one, just remember P.A.S.S.

**P**ull

**A**im

**S**queeze

**S**weep



# Safety Training Contact

For answers to questions, interactive discussion or other information related to *Portable Fire Extinguishers*, please contact:

Tim Street

Safety & Training Specialist

898-7715

[tstreet@rutherfordcounty.org](mailto:tstreet@rutherfordcounty.org)



# Quiz

Click on the link below to take a 5-Question Quiz.

<https://secure.rutherfordcountyttn.gov/insquiz/fireext.aspx>

Once you have linked to the quiz, please enter your Social Security Number at the top. You will need to enter it according to the example shown (ex. 999-99-9999 with hyphens included).

Once finished with the questions, please click the submit button and your training will be recorded.

Note: It takes 90 days for newly hired employees to be loaded to the training database. In this case print out the quiz and submit to your supervisor or safety training point of contact.