

# Fire Extinguisher Training



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# 4 Main Causes of Fire

## *PEOPLE CAUSE FIRES!*

“Directly – Indirectly – Accidentally – Deliberately”



### *SMOKING*

- Careless disposal of cigarette's
- Falling asleep with lit cigarette's
- Accidental ignition with smoking materials



### *COOKING*

- Fat fire / Toaster / Microwave Etc
- Leaving ovens or grills on unattended
- Distracted by telephone – Knock at the door



### *ELECTRICAL*

- Wrong fuse for the appliance
- Overloaded sockets / adapters - Overheating
- Faulty wiring / Appliances / Untested items



### *ARSON*

- Disgruntled ex-employee
- Out of control individual – Alcohol / Drugs Etc
- To claim insurance
- Unstable individual – Enjoys seeing fire

# General Fire Procedures

## **Upon Hearing The Fire Alarm, You Should:**

- Stop what you are doing. Make the area safe.
- Proceed to assembly point closing doors behind you.
- Check alarm panel to confirm activated zone and delegate staff to check area.

## **If You Discover a Fire:**

- This could be a confirmed fire that you see.
- Smell of burning.
- Anything unexplained that could indicate a fire.



- ***RAISE THE ALARM***
- Shout for Assistance
- Operate Fire Alarm
- Call the Fire Service – 999  
(Even if fire is out)



## **Staff Can Fight the Fire If:**

- They have been trained to do so.
- They are competent and confident to tackle *SMALL* Fires only.
- It does not put them at risk.



# Theory of Fire



The Triangle of combustion

1. **FUEL:** Combustible Source. E.g. Wood, Paper, Oil, Fat.
2. **OXYGEN:** Needed to support / sustain combustion.
3. **HEAT:** Temperature high enough to burn / ignite.

**REMOVE FUEL = STARVE FIRE**

**REMOVE OXYGEN = SMOTHER/STARVE FIRE**

**REMOVE HEAT = COOL FIRE**

Remove one side of the triangle and the fire cannot start or continue. The practice and principle of Fire Extinction is based on this principle.

# Fire Extinguishers

- You should only use extinguishers you have been trained on.
- You must select the correct type for the type of fire you are faced with.
- For SMALL fires only.
- The extinguisher has instructions and pictures on the side in case you forget how to use it.
- Know where they are located!!

***A SMALL FIRE IS DESCRIBED AS A FIRE THE SIZE OF A WASTEPAPER BIN OR A SMALL FAT FIRE***

## Operating a Fire Extinguisher (PASS)

- **P**ull out safety device (pin and/or seal)
- **A**im nozzle at fire.
- **S**queeze trigger.
- **S**pread contents onto fire.

When empty, evacuate area closing all doors and windows behind you.

## Classes of Fire



**Solids:** Paper, Wood, Linen, Rubbish, Curtains, Furniture etc.



**Flammable Liquids:** Petrol, Fuels, Paints, Thinners, and Oils Etc...



**Gases:** Where the gas cannot be isolated and is escaping unnaturally on fire.



**Metals:** Special types of metals, unlikely to be seen within the workplace.



**Cooking Oils:** Extremely high temperature cooking oil fires.



**Electrical:** Where the power cannot be isolated, appliances continue to burn.

# Fire Extinguisher Types



**WATER:** Use on solids only such as small rubbish fires, wood, paper, Linen, Bedding Etc...



***NOT TO BE USED ON ELECTRICAL OR FLAMMABLE LIQUID FIRES.***



**FOAM:** Mainly for Flammable liquids such as paints, fuels, oils but can be used on solids.



***NOT TO BE USED ON ELECTRICAL FIRES UNLESS SPECIFIED.***



**POWDER:** All rounder for most types of fires, including *Electrical and Flammables..*



***VENTILATE AFTER USE***



**CO2:** Clean extinguisher used for mainly Electrical and small Flammable fires..



***DRY ICE FORMS ON HORN AND METAL PARTS***



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