

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



The proper use of portable fire extinguishers can extinguish many fires while they are still small. You should be aware, however, that your local fire department (CALL 911) should be notified without delay as soon as any fire is discovered.

Ideally, every home and motor vehicle should have a working portable extinguisher available. It just makes sense - - suppress a small fire before it becomes a major one.

It is important to keep in mind that the successful use of portable fire extinguishers depends on the following:

- *the portable fire extinguishers are properly located and in working order*
- *the portable fire extinguishers are of the correct type*
- *the fire is discovered while still small enough for use of the portable fire extinguishers to be effective*
- *the fire is discovered by persons who are ready, willing, and able to use the portable fire extinguishers*

Portable fire extinguishers are valuable for immediate use on small fires. However, they contain a limited amount of extinguishing material and need to be used properly so that this material is not wasted. Generally, operation instructions are provided on the side of the fire extinguisher. They clearly describe how to use the extinguisher in case of an emergency. Try to remember:

Pull the safety pin

Aim at the base of the fire, stand back 4-6 feet

Squeeze the trigger

Sweep from side to side

PASS pull, aim, squeeze, sweep