



# HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

The most important thing to remember if you discover a fire is to remain calm, think logically and raise the alarm.



If in doubt – it's best to get out, stay out, call the fire brigade and leave it to the professionals.



You need to stand at a distance of about 8 to 12 feet away from the flames. Standing closer is potentially dangerous and risks spreading the fire.



Fire can spread very quickly and you should never underestimate it. You should only attempt to tackle a fire yourself if you're sure you can do it safely.



But if you're going to use a fire extinguisher, first check for any signs of visible damage and make sure the extinguisher is charged and ready for use.



## TRY TO REMEMBER PASS



**P** **PULL** the safety pin, located at the top of the extinguisher.



**A** **AIM** the extinguisher at the base of the fire.



**S** **SQUEEZE** the handle to spray the contents.



**S** **SWEEP** from side to side until all of the flames have been extinguished.

Keep spraying to avoid re-ignition until the extinguisher contents have been fully discharged.

## SPECIAL ADVICE FOR FOAM AND CO2 FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

➤ Most extinguishers should be operated in the same way, although there are special guidelines for foam and Co2 extinguishers.

➤ Care and attention should be exercised when using carbon dioxide fire extinguishers.

➤ You must position the discharge horn before use, as during use this becomes very cold and touching it will result in freeze burns.



➤ Foam extinguishers should be aimed at the back edge of a fire instead of the base to be most effective.

➤ For this reason, you must hold the handle, not the horn.

## TAKEAWAY

Fire extinguishers can be very useful tools for controlling fire in its early stages.

Nothing you do, is worth getting hurt for.

If you spot a fire, get out and call the fire brigade.

But it's really important that you use the correct type depending on the class of fire.

Using the wrong type can be very dangerous.

Tackling fires is best taken care of by professionals.

