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Teaching Fire Extinguisher Skills with PASS

This course is designed to equip individuals with the essential skills to effectively use a fire extinguisher in emergency situations. Participants will learn and practice the PASS method—Pull, Aim, Squeeze, and Sweep—ensuring they are prepared to respond confidently and safely to fire incidents. The course is tailored for individuals with at least a high school education and is suitable for those seeking practical, hands-on training in fire safety. By the end of the course, learners will have the knowledge and confidence to operate a fire extinguisher correctly and efficiently. Join us to gain a critical life-saving skill in a straightforward and accessible format.



Understanding Fire Extinguishers



PASS Method

Understanding Fire Extinguishers

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It's important to understand how to use fire extinguishers and know which type is appropriate—so that in an emergency, you're prepared to act quickly and safely.

Types of Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are categorized based on the types of fires they are designed to combat. Each type is labeled with a specific class, such as Class A for ordinary combustibles like wood and paper, or Class B for flammable liquids like gasoline.

Understanding these classifications is essential for choosing the right extinguisher in an emergency.

Additionally, some extinguishers are multipurpose, such as those labeled ABC, which can handle a variety of fire types. Familiarizing yourself with these distinctions ensures you can act quickly and effectively when faced with a fire hazard. Always check the label and instructions before use to ensure proper application.

Extinguisher Type	Suitable Fires	Color Code	Usage Tips
Water	Class A (Wood, Paper)	Red	Avoid using on electrical fires.
Foam	Class A and B (Flammable Liquids)	Cream	Effective on liquid spills; do not use on electrical fires.
CO2	Class B and Electrical	Black	Ideal for electrical equipment; avoid confined spaces.
Dry Powder	Class A, B, C (Multi-purpose)	Blue	Versatile but can reduce visibility indoors.
Wet Chemical	Class F (Cooking Oils)	Yellow	Specialized for kitchen fires; apply in a sweeping motion.

CONTINUE

When to Use a Fire Extinguisher

- 1** **Assess the Fire's Size:** Ensure the fire is small and contained, such as in a wastebasket, before attempting to extinguish it.
- 2** **Ensure a Safe Exit Path:** Always position yourself with a clear and unobstructed escape route before using a fire extinguisher.
- 3** **Confirm the Correct Extinguisher:** Verify that the extinguisher type matches the fire class, such as electrical or flammable liquids.
- 4** **Evaluate Personal Safety:** Confirm you are not at risk from smoke, heat, or toxic fumes before deciding to use a fire extinguisher.

CONTINUE

Components of a Fire Extinguisher

A fire extinguisher consists of several key components that work together to suppress fires effectively. The cylinder is the main body that holds the extinguishing agent, such as water, foam, or dry chemicals. The nozzle or hose allows for precise application of the agent to the fire. The handle and lever are used to activate the extinguisher, releasing the agent under pressure. Additionally, the pressure gauge indicates whether the extinguisher is charged and ready for use. Understanding these components is essential for proper operation during emergencies.

Parts of a Fire Extinguisher

Understanding the components of a fire extinguisher is crucial for its effective use. Each part plays a specific role in ensuring safety and proper functionality during emergencies.

Familiarize yourself with these parts to be prepared when needed.

Step 2

Handle / Carrying Handle



Located at the top for carrying the extinguisher safely.

Step 3

Safety Pin and Seal



- The **pin** prevents accidental discharge.
- The **tamper seal** keeps the pin in place and shows if it's been used or tampered with.

Step 4

Operating Lever / Squeeze Handle



You squeeze this to release the extinguishing agent.

Step 5

Pressure Gauge (on most models)



- Shows if the extinguisher is properly pressurized.
- Needle should be in the green zone.

Step 6

Hose or Nozzle



- Directs the extinguishing agent to the base of the fire.
- Some models have a short nozzle; others a long flexible hose.

Step 7

Cylinder / Body 6 Title



The main container holding the extinguishing agent (like water, foam, dry chemical, CO₂, etc.)

Step 8

Discharge Tube (inside)

- Transfers the agent from the bottom of the tank to the nozzle when activated.

Step 9

Label / Instructions



- Includes the type of fire extinguisher, directions for use, and safety info.

PASS Method



Summary

The PASS method is a simple and memorable way to use a fire extinguisher effectively. It ensures safety and efficiency during emergencies by breaking the process into four easy steps. Here are some key takeaways:

1. **Pull the pin.** This step breaks the tamper seal and prepares the extinguisher for use.
2. **Aim at the base.** Target the base of the flames for the best results.
3. **Squeeze the handles.** Press firmly to release and control the extinguishing agent.
4. **Sweep side to side.** Move the nozzle in a sweeping motion to cover the fire completely.

Remember the PASS method to confidently and safely handle fire emergencies!

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Master the PASS method: Pull, Aim, Squeeze, and Sweep. These four steps are your key to confidently and effectively

using a fire extinguisher in any emergency.

- Pull the pin in the extinguisher's handle.



- Aim the nozzle at the base of the flames, holding the extinguisher within 6 feet of the fire.



- Squeeze (or press) the handles together.



- Sweep from side to side at the base of the fire until it is out.



Pass method for using an extinguisher.

CONTINUE

Sorting



PASS Steps

Pull the pin

Aim at the base of the fire

Squeeze the handle

Sweep side to side

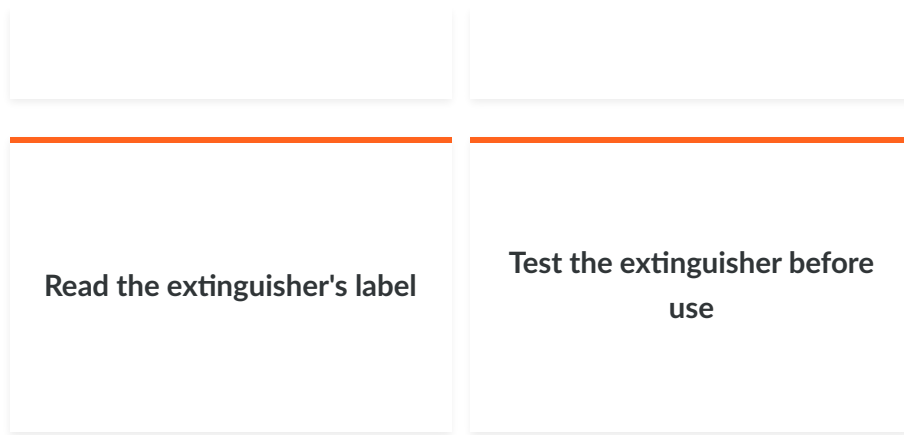
Non-PASS Steps

**Inspect the extinguisher
monthly**

Call emergency services

Check the fire's size

Ensure an escape route



CONTINUE

Knowledge Check

What is the correct sequence of steps in the PASS method for using a fire extinguisher?

- Squeeze, Pull, Aim, Sweep
- Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep
- Aim, Pull, Squeeze, Sweep



Pull, Sweep, Aim, Squeeze

SUBMIT

Match each step of the PASS method with its corresponding action. This activity will test your understanding of how to effectively use a fire extinguisher in an emergency.

SUBMIT