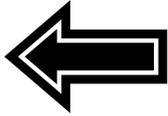


## Common Fire Extinguishers



**Left:** Class ABC Dry Chemical Extinguisher



**Above:** Class K Extinguisher. This is a wet chemical based extinguisher common in restaurant kitchens. It is designed for fires involving grease and oils from cooking operations.

## Learn More About Safety:

[www.urbandale.org](http://www.urbandale.org) - UFD website

[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) - National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

[www.homefiresprinkler.org](http://www.homefiresprinkler.org) - Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) - FEMA Emergency Preparedness site

[www.bereadyiowa.org](http://www.bereadyiowa.org) – IA Homeland Security and Emergency Management



3927 121st St.  
Urbandale, IA 50323  
Phone: (515) 278-3970  
Email: [fire@urbandale.org](mailto:fire@urbandale.org)  
[www.facebook.com/urbandalefiredepartment](https://www.facebook.com/urbandalefiredepartment)



## Fire Extinguisher Information



***Would you be able to use one in the event of a fire?***

## When To Use A Fire Extinguisher

- ⇒ Make sure you are trained on how to properly deploy a fire extinguisher. During a fire is not the time to learn!
- ⇒ Make sure you know what is burning.
- ⇒ Make sure the fire is not spreading quickly.
- ⇒ Make sure heat and smoke have not filled the area/room.
- ⇒ Make sure you have a clear path of escape.
- ⇒ Make sure someone has called **9-1-1**.

## P.A.S.S. Method

To operate an extinguisher, remember the word **PASS**:

**P**—“pull” the pin at the top of the extinguisher that keeps the handle from being depressed.

**A**—“aim” the nozzle or outlet towards the base of the fire.

**S**—“squeeze” the handle to discharge the extinguishing agent. Stay 6 feet away from the fire and slowly move closer if the extinguishing agent is not reaching the fire.

**S**—“sweep” the nozzle back and forth at the base of the fire. Make sure the fire is out. Avoid “plunging” the agent into flammable liquids as splashing may spread the fire.

## Extinguisher Classifications

Extinguishers are vital as the first line of defense to use during a small fire. There are several classifications of fire extinguishers depending on the type and size of the building in which they may be needed. Below is a list of the classifications, which can be found on the side of the extinguisher:

<u>LETTER SYMBOL:</u>	<u>PICTURE SYMBOL:</u>	<u>FOR USE ON:</u>
		ORDINARY COMBUSTIBLES SUCH AS TRASH, PAPER, WOOD AND TEXTILES
		FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS
		ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
		COMBUSTIBLE METAL
		COMBUSTIBLE COOKING MEDIA

## Helpful Safety Tips and Information:

- \* Extinguishers in the home should be rated for ABC fires and be replaced **every 7 years**.
- \* Read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher and become familiar with its parts and operation before a fire breaks out. Local fire departments or fire equipment distributors often offer hands-on fire extinguisher trainings.
- \* Dry chemical extinguishers come in a variety of sizes and are appropriate for use in a combination of Class A, B, and C fires. They are filled with foam or powder and are pressurized with nitrogen.
- \* Know when to go. Fire extinguishers are one element of a fire response plan, but the primary element is safe escape. Every household should have a home fire escape plan and working smoke alarms. **Install fire sprinklers if you are building a new home!**

## Anatomy Of A Fire Extinguisher:

