Basic Information on Fire Extinguishers

Points to note

(1) Type of fire extinguisher is dependant upon the predominant risk in that area

(2) Fire extinguishers should normally located on exit / escape routes, corridors, stairwells, fire points or in the actual rooms

(3) Final location and type should be determined by fire risk assessment.

(4) Should be sited within 30m of work location

(5) Near to but not too near potential fire risk

(6) Fixed approximately 1m from floor to handle if wall mounted

(7) Do not position in areas of extreme heat or cold

(8) Recessed if possible

(9) Position information signs above the extinguishers (also helps to indicate if an extinguisher is in the wrong position)

(10) Provision should comply with BS 5306: Part 8 (e.g. for class A fires, one 13A unit for each 200m²)

(11) Weekly user visual checks should be carried out

(12) Minimum of annual servicing to comply with BS 5306: Part 3 by a competent (BAFE or FETA certificated) engineer / contractor

REMEMBER! They are NOT high tech doorstops!
Types of extinguisher and their uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Powder</th>
<th>Foam</th>
<th>Carbon Dioxide</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can be used on</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>Liquid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>Electrical</td>
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<td>Textiles</td>
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<td>Solids</td>
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Do not use on

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liquid</th>
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<th>Electrical</th>
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<td>Metals</td>
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Examples of fire extinguisher signage
**RIGHT**

- Check Security Tag is in place
- Check Safety Pin is in position
- Check extinguisher is charged

**WRONG**

- Security Tag missing
- Safety Pin not in correct position
- Extinguisher not charged

Check fire extinguishers are not being obstructed