

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY · FIRE SAFETY

VITS

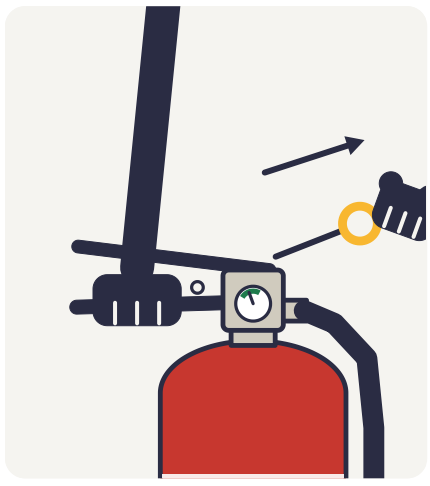
Fire extinguisher use

A fire extinguisher is for small fires in their early stages. **A bin caught fire in a workshop. A worker put it out with a powder extinguisher before the firefighters came.**

Possible consequences

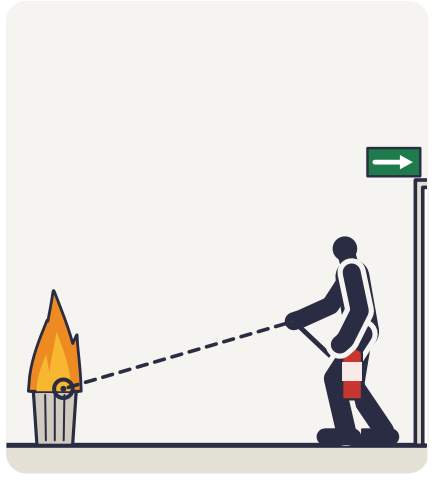
- Burns
- Smoke inhalation
- Fire spread
- Property damage
- Downtime

1 PULL THE PIN



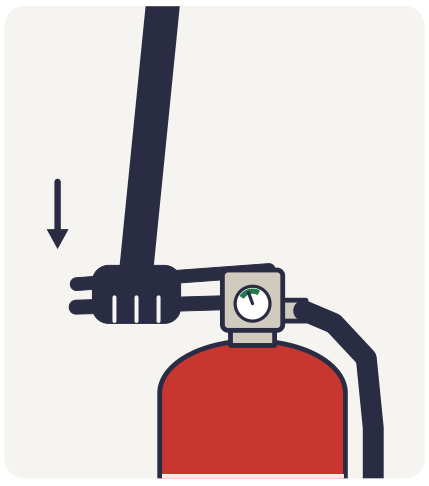
Hold it by the handle and pull out the pin.

2 AIM AT THE BASE



From a safe distance, aim the hose at the base.

3 SQUEEZE THE LEVER



Squeeze in bursts; don't empty it all at once.

4 SWEEP SIDE TO SIDE



Sweep across the burning surface, starting at the front.

If you discover a fire, report it immediately on emergency number 112 and take initial measures to stop it spreading and to put it out.

DO

- Check the gauge needle is in the green zone.
- Report a fire to 112 at once.
- Keep your escape route behind you.
- Read the label to see what fires it can be used on.
- Outdoors, stand so the fire is downwind of you.
- **Tackle live equipment fires from 1 m or more.**
  A powder extinguisher can be used up to 1000 V.
- Tackle a burning spill from the edges inwards.
- Afterwards, watch that the fire doesn't reignite.

DON'T

- **Don't fight a large fire**
  Leave and let firefighters put it out.
- **Don't use water on fat or oil fires**
  The fire flares up and spreads.
- **Don't turn it upside down**
  Then the agent won't discharge properly.
- **Don't hold the hose near the cylinder**
  Holding the end lets you aim better.
- **Don't spray straight into burning liquid**
  The jet can splash burning liquid around.
- **Don't put a hand in front of a CO_2 jet**
  The very cold gas can cause frostbite.
- **Don't put a used extinguisher back on the wall**
  It can't be relied on in the next fire.

REMEMBER

Small fire: put it out. Big fire: get out. Call 112.

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