



FACT SHEET

No. 43 – Portable Fire Extinguisher Tips for Business

Version 02

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FACT

With proper use a portable fire extinguisher will be able to reduce or eliminate the degree of injury, damage and cost to business in the event of a small fire.

- If you are considering making changes to your building's scheduled fire safety measures, enforceable by law, you must seek council approval before making such changes. Contact your local council's Fire Safety Officer for further information.
- If portable fire extinguishers are installed in your building you are required by law to have them inspected and serviced every 6 months by a properly qualified person.
- Each extinguisher shall be located in conspicuous, readily accessible locations and have a surrounding clearance of a minimum of 1000mm.
- Extinguishers must be thermally protected if installed in locations where the temperature is outside the range of 5°C to 50°C.
- Each extinguisher shall be supported by an appropriate support fitting or bracket, or placed in a cabinet or enclosure with the front of the extinguisher facing outwards.
- Distribution of extinguishers in buildings shall be in accordance with the hazard present in the area to be protected rather than size of the area.

EXTINGUISHER MOUNTING

- Max - 1200mm from floor to top of extinguisher handle Min - 100mm from floor to bottom of extinguisher.
- Location sign mounting heights - Min - 2000mm above floor level.
- At a point that makes them most apparent to a person of average height & visual acuity.
- The extinguisher or extinguisher sign shall be clearly visible for up to 20 metres on approach.
- The size of the sign shall be determined by the location and distance at which the sign must be legible.
- A minimum of one sign must be provided above or adjacent to an extinguisher even if indicating the location of multiple or a mixed group of extinguishers.
- The extinguisher and fire point location signs shall have a symbol, border and letters in white on a red field, complying with Australian Standard (AS) 2700.
- The Australian Standard (AS) 2444 Portable Fire Extinguishers and Fire Blankets selection and location will provide comprehensive and specific information. Ensure everyone in the office understands evacuation plans and know the location of all portable fire extinguishers and how to use them.

For more information and professional fire safety training for your staff, contact ComSafe, on 1800 SURVIVE (787 848) or visit their website www.comsafe.com.au



For more information contact your local fire station or visit:
www.fire.nsw.gov.au or www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or www.esa.act.gov.au

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL TRIPLE ZERO (000)

PREVENT PREPARE PROTECT

