

For Your Safety: P.A.S.S. When Using A Fire Extinguisher

Fire extinguishers are not an effective tool when it comes to battling large fires. They're not supposed to be. With their limited capacity they are designed to put out fires that are just starting or in the incipient stage. Any blaze larger than a small trash fire is too big to be fought with the average fire extinguisher. However, when used properly, a fire extinguisher can be used to knock down flames to reach an exit and get out of a burning building or vehicle. The easiest way to remember how to use a fire extinguisher is P.A.S.S. which stands for **P**ull the pin, **A**im, **S**queeze and **S**weep. Here's a quick review of how to operate a fire extinguisher.

Pull the pin that protects the handle at the top of the extinguisher.

Aim the nozzle toward the base of the fire.

Squeeze the handle to discharge the extinguisher. If you release the handle, the discharge will stop.

Sweep the nozzle back and forth at the base of the fire. After the fire appears to be out, watch it carefully because it may re-ignite!



As always, if you have any questions about using a fire extinguisher ask your supervisor. If you have the slightest doubt about your ability to fight a fire....**EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY!**