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Fire extinguisher inspection report form

Fire extinguisher is an absolute necessity in any home or office. While there's a good chance the fire extinguisher will sit on the wall for years gathering dust, it could end up saving your property and even your life. In this article, we'll see exactly what fire extinguishers do and how they do it. We'll also find out what causes the fire in the first place, learn the right way to use a fire extinguisher and see what kind of fire extinguishing works best on different types of fires. The fire is the result of a chemical combustion reaction, usually a reaction between oxygen in the atmosphere and some kind of fuel (such as wood or gasoline). Of course, wood and gasoline are not spontaneously caught on fire just because they are surrounded by oxygen. In order for the combustion reaction to take place, the fuel reaches the temperature of its ignition. The fire is the result of a chemical combustion reaction, usually a reaction between oxygen in the atmosphere and some kind of fuel (such as wood or gasoline). Of course, wood and gasoline are not spontaneously caught on fire just because they are surrounded by oxygen. In order for the combustion reaction to take place, the fuel reaches the temperature of its ignition. Here's a sequence of events in a typical wooden fire: Something heats the wood to very high temperatures. It can be any number of things - focused light, friction, something else that's already on fire. When the wood reaches about 500 degrees Fahrenheit (260 degrees Celsius), heat decomposes part of the cellulose material that makes up the wood. The decomposed material is released as volatile gases, usually a compound of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen. When the gas is hot enough, the compound molecules disintegrate and the atoms recombine with oxygen to form water, carbon dioxide and other products. Gases that rise on the stream, make up the flames. Carbon atoms that go up in flames emit light as they heat up. (Check how light bulbs work to find out why heated objects emit light.) Heat flames hold fuel at ignition temperatures, so it continues to burn as long as there is fuel and oxygen. As you can see, three main elements are involved in this process: Extreme Heat Oxygen (or similar gas)Fuel fire extinguishers are designed to remove at least one of these elements so that the fire perishes. There are several different ways to do this, as we will see in the next section. You know you have to test your smoke alarm twice a year, but what about your fire extinguisher? If yours is at the back of the cupboard where you hid it ten years ago, chances are it won't be much help in the fire. Here's how to check the fire extinguisher to make sure it's ready if you ever need it.mp3_linkListen to BOB VILA TO CHECK FIRE EXTINGUISHER or read the text below:Photo: nbclosangeles.comThe Thing to test is a pressure gauge that will tell you if your fire extinguisher is overloaded, undervalued, or just right. If he is not charged properly, first contact your local firehouse to see if they can help. If they can't, they can at least point you in the right direction. Check the fire extinguisher for dents, rust or other signs of damage. If you see, it's time to dispose of it because a crack in a pressed fire extinguisher can cause it to explode. Make sure that the counterfeit seal and pin are in place. If your fire extinguisher has an inspection tag, check when it was last professionally tested, if ever. It is a very good idea to follow the recommended schedule of professional service. If in doubt, contact your local fire safety company for guidance. Finally, don't put the fire extinguisher back in that closet - for it to be useful, you should be able to get to it quickly. Bob Vila Radio is a newly launched daily radio show, carried out at more than 75 stations across the country (and growing). You can get a daily dose here by listening to - or reading - Bob's 60-second radio about improving the day's home. Photo: istockphoto.com Repaid the fire is like insurance: You will never need it in the hope (and it will be better to be at least one in your home!). But if it came down to it, would you be able to use it? There is no better time than the present- before a stressful flame situation - to familiarize yourself with these must-have emergency devices. Up front, you'll find a crash course in the types of fire extinguishers and fires they suppress, followed by a step-by-step guide on how to effectively use a fire extinguisher. The types of fire extinguishers you no doubt learned in high school science, fire needs oxygen, fuel and heat to sustain yourself. Remove either of the three and the fiery triangle collapses. However, with different fuel sources, fires have to fight differently, so make sure your fire extinguisher has the right agent - whether it's foam, water, dry chemical or a wet chemical - for a particular fire. Using the wrong fire extinguisher can worsen a dangerous situation. Fire extinguishers are usually detected in homes, usually on water or foam. Industry experts recommend homeowners have an all-purpose dry ABC chemical fire extinguisher to handle various fires except for kitchen fat fires. Class A fires include common combustible substances such as wood, paper, plastic, cloth and debris. Class B fires are caused by flammable liquids such as gasoline, kerosene and oil (but not cooking oil or fat fires). Class C fires start with electrical isoks. Kitchen fires known as Class K should never fight water. To fight a little fat in the pan, heat and cover the pan with a metal lid or toss a large amount of baking soda all over it. If you regularly regularly with plenty of cooking oil, purchase a wet chemical fire extinguisher rated for fat fires (it will run on some Class A fires). All fire extinguishers are only designed to fight fires in a distinguishing stage, which is the fire department of lingo for just getting started. If the fire is as high as you are, leave the area immediately, close the door to the room and call 911.Using a fire extinguisherPhoto: istockphoto.com Sometimes there are different types of fire extinguishers, they all work essentially the same, and there is a simple anagram for their use. So, if you run into a little fire, grab the right fire extinguisher and think P.A.S.-S.-Pull, aim, squeeze, sweep. STEP 1 Pull the pin, usually attached to a plastic or metal ring, put in place to prevent accidental compression of the lever. Pulling the pin, be careful not to press the lever yet or you will break the seal of the canister and the decompression will begin. STEP 2 Target the nozzle or hose at the base of the fire. This is critically important - explosive flames will not stop the source of the fire. Stand at least 2 feet from the fire extinguishers (fire extinguishers have a distance of 6 to 20 feet for spray, so check the fire extinguisher for specifics). STEP 3 Squeeze the fire extinguisher spray lever. The average fire extinguisher has about 10 seconds of spraying time, so you'll need to be accurate and fast. STEP 4 Sweep the nozzle or hose side to side until the fire is extinguished. Close in on the fire as it decreases, watching the re-ignition closely. Where there is smoke, there is a fire, so any smoke at all means that the fire has not yet completely turned out. The best indication that the fire has come out is that the area is cool to the touch. Proceed carefully, holding your hand to feel the heat before you start touching the charred surfaces. STEP 5 If you used a fire extinguisher, you can most likely refill or charge it. Contact the manufacturer or the local fire department to see if this is possible and if so, where to go. If you can't refill it, allow your exhausted fire extinguisher to rest for a few days to completely unzip it and then dispose of it in your trash can, or contact your local fire department for information about recycling it. If necessary, buy a new fire extinguisher without delay. Experts recommend storing fire extinguishers installed near the doorway. Never store a fire extinguisher near the stove and, as the remains of chemicals and paints make garage fires potentially very dangerous, be sure to install a fire extinguisher at the garage entrance. Step 6 Check the fire extinguisher regularly, preferably monthly to make sure the pin is in place and the pressure gauge shows either 100 to 175 psi or the needle is in the green ready area. If not, replace it or contact local fire service to find out if they can charge it or recommend where to go to do so. Now, armed properly knowledge, you are ready to solve any small fire. But remember, don't resist any fire like you. Fires can grow twice in size every 60 seconds, so be smart, be safe, and protect yourself. Photo: istockphoto.com Go to basic contentHomeFamily HandymanCommon sense dictates that you keep fire extinguishers wherever there is potential for accidental fire, such as in kitchens and garages. But some fire experts also recommend keeping them in places like laundry and workshops, as well as at the top of the basement stairs. Fire extinguishers should never be more than 255 feet from class A hazards (conventional combustibles) and no more than 50 feet from class B hazards (flaming liquids). When you mount a fire extinguisher against the wall, hold it high enough for children to reach it, near the exit and away from any heat source. Also place the fire extinguisher at a safe distance from the items and areas with the highest risk for fire so you can get to it when you need it most.12 Fire Safety Tips You need to knowEducate, check out the 10 things you should never burn in your fireplace:granata68/Shutterstock Burning high-moisture wood in your fireplace produces more smoke than aging wood. This, in turn, can lead to the fact that on the walls of your chimney will increase dangerous creosote. Burn only dry wood. Learn how often to remove creosote in the chimney. Image:Joy/Shutterstock It may be tempting to throw dried plants into the fireplace: They're kind of like firewood, right? Well, smoke from some plants, such as poison ivy, sumac poison and oak poison can cause an allergic reaction when burned and inhaled. Leave all the plant matter outside. These 12 invasive plants can be dangerous. Nito100/Getty Images Because burning painted and treated wood can release dangerous, toxic chemicals into your home, keep them out of the fireplace. These chemicals not only can irritate the lungs, eyes and skin, but they can damage the inside of your fireplace. Try these pointless ways to start a cozy fire. Image:Pixel/Shutterstock It seems logical that you could get rid of your old Christmas tree in the fireplace, but it is better to dispose of it by other means. Not only are wood not properly justified, evergreen trees often contain high levels of fast burning autumn, which can reach high temperatures and cause a chimney fire or even break the chimney. Here's how to avoid these premortal Christmas tree beetles. Teerasak Ladnongkhun/Shutterstock It doesn't matter what type of plastic you have - plastic bags, bubble wraps, plastic bottles or boxes - never throw it into the fireplace. When burned, plastic releases harmful chemicals that can be dangerous to your health. Your wood-wearing fireplace for winter with these 13 must-see steps. Balefire/Shutterstock It may be tempting to throw old papers, wrapping paper or that cardboard pizza box in the fireplace, but you dispose of paper and cardboard with colored print in another way. Brightly colored paints can release toxic gases when burned. Got a non-working fireplace? Check out these 12 clever ideas on how to use space. Wealthylady/Shutterstock While you can use charcoal products in barbecue grills, keep them outdoors. When you burn charcoal, it releases carbon monoxide into the air, and that's the last thing you want inside your home. When should the carbon monoxide detector be replaced? Follow this guide. Phil McDonald/Shutterstock While the dryer can work like a big fire starter when you're going camping, keep it out of the fireplace. Synthetic fibers in the dryer can release dangerous chemical fumes into your home and chimney. Choose a healthier way to ignite a fire. Clean the substrate from the dryer with these quick tips. Anna Malygina/Shutterstock This large piece of drift you found on the coast might seem like a good choice for firewood, but it could potentially release salt and thus corrosion your fireplace and chimney. Leave driftwood to better use: decoration. When buying firewood for the season, follow these useful tips. k_samurkas/Shutterstock Never use fire accelerators such as gasoline, grill sourdough or kerosene to start a fire. These very flaming liquids can cause a fire that quickly becomes too hot for your fireplace and chimney, jeopardizing the integrity of your chimney and your home. It's best to keep these boosters out of your home. Prevent home fires with these tips. Originally published: February 07, 2019 Make it right, do it yourself! Yourself!

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