

WORKSITE FIRE EMERGENCIES

What To Do When Fire Breaks Out

If the worst should happen and a fire did break out at your worksite, would you know what to do? Knowing how to react in a fire emergency can literally mean the difference between life and death.

Your First Move

Many small and self-contained fires can be safely extinguished on the spot. However, if you are in any doubt as to the seriousness of the fire, sound the fire alarm immediately and begin evacuating the building. Know where fire alarm boxes are situated throughout your workplace, learn your company's evacuation procedures, and know the locations of established escape routes.

Fighting Small Fires

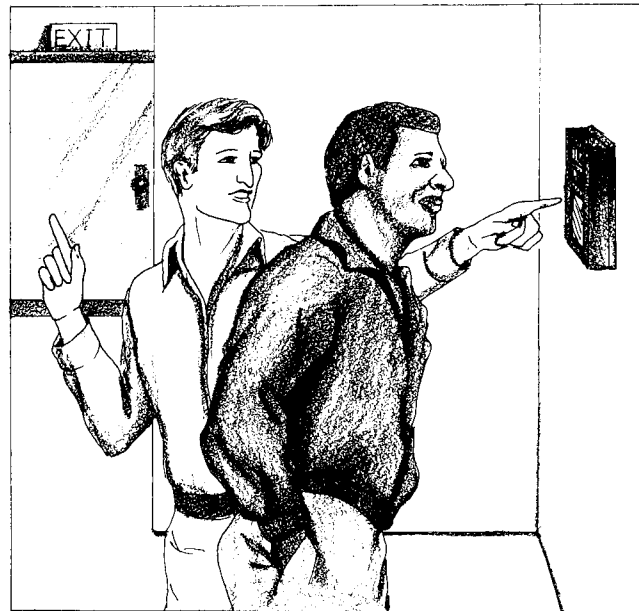
If you are *certain* that a small or self-contained fire does not pose an immediate threat to you, your coworkers, or the surrounding area, you may be able to put it out with the *appropriate* fire extinguisher. There are many varieties of fire extinguishers, but each is rated according to the type or types of fires it can put out. Before you use an extinguisher, check to see if it is rated for the type of fire you are confronting. (This information must be prominently listed on the extinguisher itself.) Please! Don't wait for a fire to learn where fire extinguishers are located and what ratings they carry. And, before you find yourself in a fire emergency, take a moment to learn the four basic types of fires.

Four Types Of Fires

- Type A: Wood, paper, cloth, rubbish, etc.
- Type B: Flammable gas/liquids (like oil, grease, paint)
- Type C: Electrical fires
- Type D: Combustible metals

Remember

Your safety comes first. If you are in doubt about the seriousness of any fire, don't hesitate—sound the alarm and evacuate the premises.



Know the location of fire alarms and emergency exits.



Check extinguisher to see if it is rated to put out the type of fire you are confronting.

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FIRE PREVENTION

A Guide To Worksite Fire Safety

Fire can be one of the most devastating of all industrial emergencies. Each year, accidental fires in the workplace cost thousands of people their livelihoods—and, for thousands more—their lives. Perhaps the saddest fact of all is that most of these fires could have been prevented. By recognizing fire hazards and learning how to correct them, you can help prevent fires and save lives.

Recognizing Fire Hazards


Industrial fires can be caused by a variety of hazards including unprotected or faulty equipment, unsafe storage of combustible materials, inadequate ventilation, failure to follow established safety guidelines (such as smoking in restricted areas), inattention, human error, and arson. Fortunately, most of these fire hazards can be recognized (and corrected) by knowing your company's safety procedures and keeping alert to potentially dangerous situations.

Preventing Fire Hazards

You can help prevent fires at your worksite, by following these guidelines:

- Keep equipment and machinery clean and in good operating condition.
- Make sure that all electrical equipment is protected.
- Never overload circuits.
- Store flammable/combustible materials in appropriate containers away from heat sources.
- Keep work and refuse areas clean and free of debris.
- Dispose of flammables

according to established safety guidelines.

- Never leave open flames unattended.
- Use caution when operating welding and other spark-producing equipment.
- Clean (if appropriate) or report all spills.
- Report suspicious persons to security or plant manager.
- Keep fire exits/escape routes clear and well-marked.
- Know where alarm boxes are located. 



Following safety guidelines and recognizing potential hazards can help you prevent fires at your worksite.

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