

## Your extinguisher must fit the fire.



**TYPE A:** Ordinary combustibles.  
Wood, cloth, paper, rubber, many plastics, and other common materials that burn easily.



**TYPE B:** flammable liquids.  
Gasoline and other flammable liquids, oil, grease, tar, oil-based paint, lacquer and flammable gas.



**TYPE C:** electrical equipment.  
Energized electrical equipment, including wiring, fuse boxes, circuit breakers, machinery and appliances.

Using an extinguisher that's not rated for the fire you are fighting may make the fire worse! It is particularly dangerous to use water or a Type A extinguisher on a grease or electrical fire.

Multipurpose extinguishers are rated for more than one type of fire. An ABC extinguisher puts out most types of fires that could start in your home—wood, paper, cloth, flammable liquid and electrical fires.

## Remember:

Knowing how to use a fire extinguisher is only one aspect of good firesafety. Other key elements are:

Installing and maintaining smoke detectors.

Having an escape plan and practicing it regularly.

Keeping your property as firesafe as possible, both indoors and out.

For information on inspection and maintenance, refer to NFPA 10, the **Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers**.



Insurance by  
**THE HARTFORD**

*People Protecting People Since 1896*

©1989 National Fire Protection Association  
Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269  
Printed In U.S.A.



BR-3A

# Fire Extinguishers: Your Small-Fire Defense

