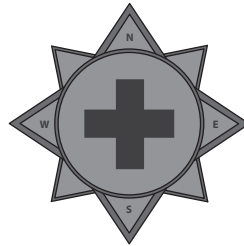


# FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Distinguishing extinguishers can be hard to get your head around, as well as your tongue. Not all fire extinguishers are the same. So we are going to look at types of extinguisher and then how to use them.

## FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



### EARN THIS NUGGET

- \* Identify any fire extinguishers in your house, their contents, and familiarize yourself with how they work. Discuss with your parents what they can and cannot be used for based on the contents.
- \* See if there is a local fire extinguisher training course that you and the family could attend, if you haven't done one. This is a good family activity and can be a life saver.

- Class A extinguishers are for ordinary combustible materials such as paper, wood, cardboard, and most plastics. This is the most common type in a home and it likely contains water.
- Class B extinguishers are used with flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, grease, and oil. These would float on water, so this is usually a powder.
- Class C extinguishers involve electrical equipment. Electricity and water cause electrocution, so very often these are CO2 extinguishers.

You can see by these, it is important to know what your fire extinguisher contains before you spray it on a fire or you could make things worse. While water may be a common fire extinguisher filler, it can also be dangerous in its own right.

You'll notice the handle has a pin or a tag that must be removed. This pin prevents accidental discharge. If you have to put a fire out, remove the pin. After this, follow the instructions. A very important tip is to always direct the extinguisher jet at the base of the fire, not at the flames above it.

