



# SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE

## Fire Marshal's Office

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### RE: Portable Fire Extinguisher Requirements

In accordance with the 2015 International Fire Code, the following requirements pertain to the use and placement of portable fire extinguishers in commercial occupancies:

1. Portable fire extinguishers shall be in all business and locations as set forth by Chapter 9 of the International Fire Code.
2. Portable fire extinguishers located in the general office and mercantile areas shall be provided with a multi-purpose dry chemical agent that provides a minimum rating classification of 2A-10BC.
3. The maximum travel distance to portable fire extinguishers within a general office and/or mercantile area shall not exceed 75 feet. Extinguishers shall be located adjacent to emergency exits where possible.
4. A minimum of one (1) K-type portable fire extinguisher shall be located within 30 feet of commercial hood and duct fire suppression system locations. Class K required only for cooking operation using vegetable oils, animal fats or solid fuels.
5. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed on the hanger provided or within an approved storage cabinet. Cabinets housing extinguishers shall not be locked unless they are provided with a means of emergency access.
6. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed so that the top of the extinguisher is no more than 5 feet in height and no less than 4 inches off the floor. Portable fire extinguishers having a gross weight greater than 40 lbs shall be so installed that the top of the extinguisher is not more than 3 feet, 6 inches from the floor.
7. Portable fire extinguishers mounted in cabinets or on brackets shall be placed in such a manner that the extinguisher operating instructions are visible.
8. Portable fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view. In large rooms, and in certain locations where visual obstruction cannot completely be avoided, an approved sign, which states "FIRE EXTINGUISHER", shall be located above the extinguisher.
9. Portable fire extinguishers shall be inspected annual for functionality and have the annual service tag and 6 year internal maintenance tag affixed to them a from a certified fire extinguisher technician per NFPA 10.

<b>A</b>		Common Combustibles	Wood, paper, cloth etc.
<b>B</b>		Flammable liquids and gases	Gasoline, propane and solvents
<b>C</b>		Live electrical equipment	Computers, fax machines
<b>D</b>		Combustible metals	Magnesium, lithium, titanium
<b>K</b>		Cooking media	Cooking oils and fats

**OPERATING YOUR EXTINGUISHER**

**P**ULL THE PIN

**A**IM AT THE BASE OF THE FIRE

**S**QUEEZE THE LEVER

**S**WEEP FROM SIDE TO SIDE

IN ADDITION

- TEST EXTINGUISHER PRIOR TO APPROACHING FIRE.
- KEEP LOW & APPROACH WITH WIND AT YOUR BACK.
- BACK AWAY, WATCHING FOR REKINDLE.