

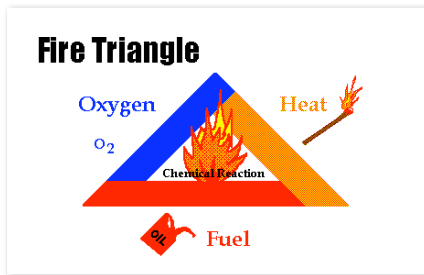
W I N T E R 2 0 0 7

Chatham Fire/Rescue








FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Fire requires three components to burn and they are typically depicted as the fire triangle.



The triangle consists of 1. a fuel to burn, 2. a source of heat and 3. oxygen to support combustion. Removing any one of the three sides of the triangle will cause the fire to go out.

Fuel is broken down into four classes. The correct choice of fire extinguisher will depend upon the type of fuel burning.

A	 Common Combustibles	Wood, Paper, Cloth, Etc.
B	 Flammable Liquids & Gases	Gasoline, Propane other Solvents
C	 Live Electrical Equipment	Computers, Fax Machines, Etc.
D	 Combustible Metals	Magnesium, Lithium Titanium
K	 Cooking Media	Oils, Lards, Fats

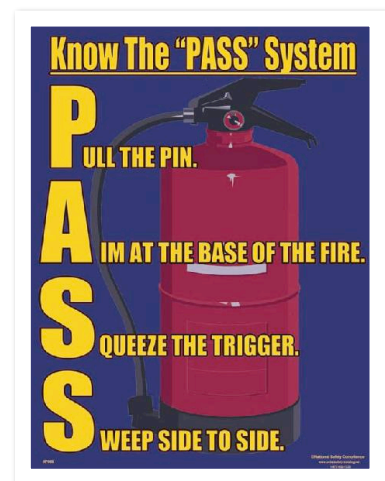
Class A fuels are ordinary combustibles, Class B are flammable or combustible liquids, Class C fires are live

electrical equipment and Class D fires involve combustible metals. In 1998 a new class was added: K Class for commercial cooking fires after the development of a new and better extinguishing agent.

*For Your Safety
Before using an
extinguisher:*

- 1. alert the other occupants and cause evacuation*
- 2. alert the fire department,*
- 3. plan your escape if the extinguisher doesn't fully put out the fire*

Read the tags before a fire occurs.



Operating a fire extinguisher is best remembered using the P.A.S.S. acronym. P = pull the release pin, A = aim the nozzle, S = squeeze the discharge handles, and S = sweep the base of the flames.