

# Working Environment

## Emergency response plans

### Portable Fire Extinguisher Guide

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Type of Fire, Class and Suitability

Pre 1997	Current	Extinguishing Agent	A	B	C	E	F	Comments	D Metal Fires
			Wood Paper Plastic	Flammable & Combustible Liquids	Flammable Gases	Electrically Energised Equipment	Cooking Oils and Fats		
		Water	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	Dangerous if used on flammable liquid, energised electrical equipment and cooking oil/fat fires	Use only special purpose extinguishers and seek expert advice.
		Wet Chemical	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Dangerous if used on energised electrical equipment	
		Foam*	✓	✓	✗	✗	LIMITED	Dangerous if used on energised electrical equipment	
		Powder	(ABE) ✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	Look carefully at the extinguisher to determine if it is a BE or ABE unit as the capability is different	
			(BE) ✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		
		Carbon Dioxide	LIMITED	LIMITED	✗	✓	✗	Not suitable for outdoor use or smouldering deep seated A Class Fires	
		Vaporising Liquid	✓	LIMITED	LIMITED	✓	✗	Check the characteristics of the specific extinguishing agent. 5 Yearly servicing must be done by ODS & SGG licenced persons.	
		Fire Blanket	LIMITED*	LIMITED	✗	✗	✓	* Fire Blankets may be used as a thermal barrier against radiated heat and to control a fire in clothes being worn by a person.	

**LEGEND** ✓ = the class or classes in which agent is most effective  
 ✗ = not recommend for these class of fires  
 For more information go to: [www.fpaa.com.au](http://www.fpaa.com.au)  
 LIMITED = indicates that the Extinguishant is not the agent of choice for the class of fire, but it may have a limited extinguishing capability  
 \* Solvents such as alcohol or acetone mix with water and therefore require special foam  
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### Fire extinguishers

Chose the type and size of fire extinguishers you need for buildings and plant and ensure they are serviced/recharged at appropriate intervals.

#### Tip



Commercial services and some fire services will conduct both the servicing and assessment of your farms requirements. Always get quotes.

For comparison of extinguishers, advantages and disadvantages and estimated costs the following is a link to a commercial site:

<http://fireextinguishersales.com.au/resources.php>