

Fire Extinguishers

Suitability of extinguishing agents in portable fire extinguishers for classes of fires

Extinguishing Agent		Class of Fire				
		Solids	Liquids	Gases	Metals	Cooking Fat
Water	W	+	- ①		- ②	- ③
Foam	S	+	+		- ②	- ③
BC-powder	P		+	+		
ABC-powder	PG	+	+	+		
Metal fire powder	M				+	
Carbon dioxide CO ₂	K		+			
Grease fire extinguishing agent		+				+

- Suitable
- Unsuitable: use involves special risks
- Empty field: unsuitable

- ① Risk of fire spreading
- ② Risk of a strong, possibly explosive reaction
- ③ Risk of grease explosion

Subdivision of individual classes of fire according to ÖNORM EN2 (Austrian Standard)



Fires containing solids, mainly of organic nature which normally burn incandescently.
Car tyres, timber, coal, duroplastic man made substances, paper, straw, textiles.



Fires containing liquid or liquefying substances
Acetone, ether, alcohol, petrol, benzol, bitumen, grease, resin, thermoplastics man made substances, lacquers, solvents, oils, paraffin, tearine, tar, wax.



Fires containing gases.
Acetylene, butane, natural gas, methane, propane, town gas, hydrogen.



Fires containing metals.
Aluminium, potassium and their alloys, lithium, magnesium, sodium.



Fires containing cooking oils / fats (vegetable or plant oils or fats) in fryers and baking ovens and other kitchen utensils.