



FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Colour of Label	Type of Ext.	Classification of Fires
RED	Water	Class A fires
WHITE	Water Mist	Class A, F fires (suitable for B & C)
CREAM	Foam	Class A, B fires
FRENCH BLUE	Dry Powder	Class A, B,C, Electrical fires
BLACK	Carbon Dioxide	Class B, Electrical fires
FRENCH BLUE	Specialist Powder	Class D fires

Fires are classified in six groups A, B, C, D, F and electrical:

Class A fires - are fires involving organic solids like paper, wood, etc

Class B fires - are fires involving flammable liquids

Class C fires - are fires involving flammable gasses

Class D fires - are fires involving burning metals (eg aluminium swarf)

Class F fires - are fires involving fats such as used in deep fat fryers

Electrical fires - symbol of an electric spark is displayed

Extinguishers in commercial or public buildings should be visually inspected monthly for damage or pressure loss and should be serviced to BS 5306-3 once a year. Water, foam and powder extinguishers have to be discharged and refilled every five years. CO2 extinguishers must be refurbished after ten years.

