

Fire Prevention & Control

Prepare: Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready? **Reason:** Fire kills more than 1000 people every year and injures thousands more.

Why: You can prevent fires, you can also start them.

Outline: This talk will cover fire prevention, precautions, types of extinguisher, and actions on fire.



Fire Prevention

- Do not hang clothing over or near heating equipment.
- Do not let paper, oily rags or other rubbish accumulate.
- Do not smoke in prohibited areas.
- Use proper sealed containers for flammable liquids, not open tins or buckets.
- Do not overload electric sockets – ‘one socket, one plug’.

Q: What should flammable liquids be stored in?

- Handle flammable liquids at a safe distance from possible sources of ignition.
- Ensure there are no adjacent flammable materials before using blow lamps, welding and cutting equipment.
- Bitumen boilers, soldering irons and gas rings must be on non-combustible stands.
- Switch off at mains any electrical equipment not in use.

Q: What checks should you carry out before and after using cutting and welding equipment?

Fire Precautions

- Make sure you know what to do in case of fire. •
- Make certain you know your escape route.
- Keep fire doors clear and unobstructed.

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Fire Prevention & Control

- Do not obstruct access to fire extinguishers.
- Ensure you know how to operate the fire extinguishers in your area

Q: Name the precautions concerning extinguishers and fire exits.

Fire Extinguishers

- All new and refurbished extinguishers will be coloured red with a contrasting colour panel to indicate the contents.
- Water (red) – use on paper, wood and solid flammables.
- CO2 (black) – use on liquids, gases and electrical fires.
- Foam (cream) – use on flammable liquids.
- Powder (blue) – use on all types of fires but primarily fires involving metals, such as aluminium and magnesium

Q: What type of fire can water be used on?

Actions To Take In The Event Of Fire

- Raise the alarm and then call the fire brigade.
- Close doors and windows to prevent the spread of fire.
- Evacuate the building or area you are working in.
- Fight the fire with extinguishers provided but do not put yourself at risk.
- Do not use water to put out electrical fires.

Q: What actions would you take in the event of a fire?

Do you have any questions for me?

Questions for you:

Q: What extinguisher must be used on burning liquids? Q: List five ways of preventing fires on site.

REMEMBER:

PLAN IN ADVANCE, YOU WON'T

HAVE TIME WHEN FIRE BREAKS OUT

Sources

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf>

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