



CSI Fire Equipment Company

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Classification of Fire Extinguishers

There are four general classifications of fires and extinguishing agents:

1. Class A

- a. **Class A** fires are those that involve ordinary combustible materials such as wood, paper, cloth, rubber and plastics.
- b. Fire Extinguishers that contain large amounts of water are the most effective means of extinguishing a **Class A** fire.



2. Class B

- a. **Class B** fires are those that occur in the vapor-air mixture over the surface of flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, grease, paints and thinners.
- b. Fire Extinguishers that limit the amount of oxygen in the air or inhibit the combustion of the fire are the most effective measure against **Class B** fires.
- c. Water must never be used on a **Class B** fire.

3. Class C

- a. **Class C** fires are those that occur in or near energized electrical equipment.
- b. Non-conducting extinguishing agents must be used on a **Class C** fire.
- c. Water must never be used on **Class C** fires.

4. Class D

- a. **Class D** fires are those that involve combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, zirconium and sodium.
- b. Only a **Class D** powdered extinguishing agent should be used on a **Class D** fire.
- c. Water must never be used on **Class D** fires.