













Know your extinguisher

Extinguisher type	Wood, paper & plastic	Flammable liquids	Flammable gases	Energised electrical equipment	Cooking oils & fats	Limited Indicates that the extinguishant is not the agent of choice for the class of fire, but that it will have limited extinguishing capability. Class D fires (involving combustible metals) use only special purpose extinguishers and seek expert advice.
						
Powder ABE 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	Special powders are available specifically for various types of metal fires. Seek expert advice.
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) 	LIMITED	LIMITED	✗	✓	LIMITED	Generally not suitable for outdoor fires. Suitable only for small fires.
Water 	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	Dangerous if used on flammable liquid, live electrical equipment and cooking oil/fat fires.
Foam 	✓	✓	✗	✗	LIMITED	Dangerous if used on electrical fires.
Wet chemical 	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	Dangerous if used on electrical fires.
Fire blanket 	✗	✗	✗	✗	LIMITED	Use blanket to wrap around a human torch. Ensure you replace the blanket with a new one after use.
Fire hose reel 	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	Ensure you maintain a path of egress between you and the nearest exit.

Training for use of equipment

Where hand operated fire fighting equipment is installed in commercial premises or vehicles, the employer, owner, agent, tenant or other person responsible, is required to ensure that employees are trained in the use of the equipment. An employer should provide such training to meet their obligations under the Health and Safety in Employment Act (Hand operated Fire-Fighting Equipment NZS 4503:2005).