












AS/NZS 1841 Fire Extinguisher Application Guide

Fires are classified into six groups: A, B, C, D, E, F.

The grid below shows what type of fuels are involved in each class of fire, along with a key to which class fire different fire extinguishers cover.

							
Extinguisher agent	Colour	Wood, paper, textiles and other carbonaceous materials	Flammable liquids, petrols & spirits	Flammable gases (propane, butane)	Fires involving burning metals	Fires caused by an electrical fault where electric current may be present	Cooking oils and fats - e.g. olive oil or lard
Dry Chemical		✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Co2		✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Foam		✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Water		✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Wet Chemical		✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Dry Powder		✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Vaporizing Liquid		✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗

Note: Specifications of fire extinguishers are set out in the standard AS/NZS 1841, the most recent version being released in 2007. All fire extinguishers must be painted signal red. Except for water extinguishers, each extinguisher has a coloured band near the top, covering at least 10% of the extinguisher's body length, specifying its contents.