

MONTHLY FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTIONS



According to OSHA [29 CFR 1910.1579(e)(2)], a monthly visual inspection of all portable fire extinguishers must be performed. This would include extinguishers that are permanently mounted in offices, job trailers, and those in our trucks and machines. You can perform a visual inspection of a fire extinguisher if you have been trained on how to use and inspect a fire extinguisher. Your annual Fire Extinguisher training suffices as that training and will allow you to inspect a portable fire extinguisher.

At our nested locations, or jobs where there is a designated break trailer or office trailer, one dedicated person should take the time once a month to visually perform an inspection of those that are mounted in buildings and document that inspection on the inspection tag on the extinguisher. For those extinguishers in trucks or machines, the driver or operator should perform inspections on those.

Here is what you need to check and look for as you do your inspection:

Location, Mount, Accessibility.

For those extinguishers mounted permanently in buildings, offices, break trailers, shops, etc., the first thing to note is the location and accessibility of the extinguisher. It should be mounted in a conspicuous location so it can be seen, with nothing stored in front of it or in close proximity as to block view or access. There should be some type of signage above the extinguisher making note of its location as well.

EXTINGUISHERS IN OFFICES, SITE TRAILERS, AND SHOP DO NOT GET STORED ON THE GROUND, THEY MUST BE MOUNTED AT AN EASILY ACCESSIBLE ELEVATION!!



Physically Inspect the Extinguisher

Look for any physical damage to the extinguisher itself, rust buildup, damaged handle, nozzle, or trigger. If any abnormality is found, remove the extinguisher and replace it right away and let your supervisor know.

Find the pressure indicator, that should be in the “green”, showing that the extinguisher is charged and ready to use. Any indicator in red, remove the extinguisher for recharge and replace it.



Check the pin (1), make sure it is in place and has a breakable tamper seal (2) securing it.



There will be an annual service tag on the extinguisher, that date should be within a year of the day you are inspecting the extinguisher. If the extinguisher you are inspecting passes, put your initials in the corresponding month, whether that be included on the annual tag, or a separate monthly tag attached by the handle.

If there are any problems, tell your supervisor, change out the extinguisher for a serviceable one, and send the faulty one out for reconditioning.

SAFETY MEETING SIGN-IN

Date _____ Topic Fire Extinguisher Inspections
Location _____
Trainer _____
Start Time _____ End Time _____

Print Name	Signature

Signature of Trainer: _____

SCAN	SAFETY/TOOL BOX TALKS/TRAINING/MMDDYY TRAINING CERTIFICATION
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