

Fire Extinguisher

Definition: A fire safety device used to discharge a jet of water, foam, gas, or other material to extinguish a fire.

Name none

Variants:

Most metal, steel, plastic

Common

Materials:

Most tank, locking pin, handle/operating lever, pressure gauge, discharge nozzle

Common

Components:

Location and Inspection of Fire Extinguishers

Abilities or Knowledge Needed:	- Visual acuity for location & inspection - Mobility for access to all areas of the property - Understanding of different types of fire extinguishers
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Tools for Location & Inspection	Useful:	none
	Required:	none

Common Locations:	Unit/Inside:	hallways, kitchens, laundry rooms, inside common areas, mechanical rooms
	Outside:	parking garages

How to Locate:	Visual Observation:	Look along the walls and in cabinets. Often has display signage around them and are often housed on brackets or within fire extinguisher cabinets.
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Possible Deficiencies:	Deficiency 1:	Pressure gauge reads over or under charged
	Deficiency 2:	Fire extinguisher tag identifies the extinguisher as being expired
	Deficiency 3:	Fire extinguisher is missing

Deficiency 1: Pressure gauge reads over or under charged

Rationale:	Maintenance:	Indicates maintenance staff is not identifying deficiencies or responding to self-generated or complaint-driven work orders.
	Health and Safety:	Reduces the ability for someone to control or extinguish a fire. Increases the probability of injury during a fire because a resident will assume that this device is functioning but will be unable to control the fire.
	Operability:	Prevents proper use of fire extinguisher.

Health and Safety:	Severe:	This is a life-threatening or severe health and safety issue requiring a 24-hour repair, correction, or act of abatement.
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How to Inspect:	Visual Observation:	Look at the fire extinguisher and determine if it is chargeable or non-chargeable. Look—if it is chargeable—at the top of the fire extinguisher and read the pressure gauge.
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Record deficiency if:	pressure gauge reads that the device is not in the green/safe zone and therefore is over or under charged.
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Deficiency 2: Fire extinguisher tag identifies the extinguisher as being expired

Rationale:	Maintenance:	Indicates maintenance staff is not identifying deficiencies or responding to self-generated or complaint-driven work orders.
	Health and Safety:	Reduces the ability for someone to control or extinguish a fire. Increases the probability of injury during a fire because a resident will assume that this device is functioning but will be unable to control the fire.
	Operability:	Prevents proper use of fire extinguisher.

Health and Safety:	Severe:	This is a life-threatening or severe health and safety issue requiring a 24-hour repair, correction, or act of abatement.
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How to Inspect:	Visual Observation:	Look at the fire extinguisher and determine if it is chargeable or non-chargeable. Look—if chargeable—at tag or certificate for expiration date. Look—if non-chargeable—at the manufacturers date and add 12 years to that date. If chargeable, look to at the tag/certificate and ensure that it is not expired. If non-chargeable, check the manufacturers date and add 12 years to determine if it is expired
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Record deficiency if:	the date on the tag/certificate on the chargeable fire extinguisher is earlier than the date of the inspection or if the manufacturers date on a non-chargeable fire extinguisher plus 12 years equals a date earlier than the date of the inspection.
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Deficiency 3: Fire extinguisher is missing

Rationale:	Maintenance:	Indicates maintenance staff is not identifying deficiencies or responding to self-generated or complaint-driven work orders.
	Health and Safety:	Reduces the ability for someone to control or extinguish a fire. Increases the probability of injury during a fire because a resident will assume that this device is functioning but will be unable to control the fire.
	Operability:	Prevents proper use of fire extinguisher.

Health and Safety: **Severe:** **This is a life-threatening or severe health and safety issue requiring a 24-hour repair, correction, or act of abatement.**

How to Inspect:	Visual Observation:	Look along the walls for evidence of a fire extinguisher but no fire extinguisher present such as brackets, signage, and marked cabinets.
	Please Note:	For the purpose of this inspection, evidence does not include fire hose cabinets or hangers. Inspectors should not consider Fire extinguishers that are not positioned for use (e.g. in a maintenance shop or designated storage areas.)

Record deficiency if: evidence exists that a fire extinguisher is intended to be present but is not there.