

REGULATORY ADA AND NFPA

CONSENSUS STANDARDS, REQUIREMENTS, CODES AND LAWS

The placement of fire extinguishers and fire extinguisher cabinets is driven by a group of consensus standards, requirements, codes and laws. Ultimately, where, how many, and what type, will be determined by the authority having jurisdiction for that location. The authority could be as diverse as the City Building Inspector or the Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics. The requirements that establish placement practice are ultimately found in local fire prevention codes at one end of the spectrum or Federal Law at the other end.

For the proper location, type and number of fire extinguishers, consult with the local authority having jurisdiction. As a general guideline, we offer the following excerpt from Occupational Safety and Health Administration - Sub Part L and from National Consensus documents:

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 - PROTRUDING OBJECTS

The majority of fire extinguishers, when hung on a wall, protrude more than 4" into walks, halls, corridors, passageways or aisles. To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), objects protruding from walls (fire extinguishers) with their leading edges between 27 in. and 80 in. above the finished floor, shall protrude no more than 4" into walks, halls, corridors, passageways or aisles. Therefore, fire extinguishers that protrude more than 4" must be recessed into the wall.

Potter Roemer fire extinguisher cabinets allow the specifier to comply with the ADA protrusion requirements, which are identified in each dimensional table found in this catalog. Please note the column headed ADA Compliance to specify the appropriate fire extinguisher cabinet.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER SIZE AND PLACEMENT CRITERIA (PER NFPA 10)

FOR CLASS A HAZARDS

CRITERIA	LIGHT HAZARD OCCUPANCY	ORDINARY HAZARD OCCUPANCY	EXTRA HAZARD OCCUPANCY
Minimum Rated Single Extinguisher	2-A	2-A	4-A
Maximum Floor Area per Unit of A	3,000 sq. ft.	1,500 sq. ft.	1,000 sq. ft.
Maximum Floor Area for Extinguisher	11,250 sq. ft.	11,250 sq. ft.	11,250 sq. ft.
Maximum Travel Distance to Extinguisher	75'	75'	75'

FOR CLASS B HAZARDS

TYPE OF HAZARD	MAXIMUM EXTINGUISHER RATING	MAXIMUM TRAVEL DISTANCE TO EXTINGUISHER
Light (Low)	5-B	30'
	10-B	50'
Ordinary (Moderate)	10-B	30'
	20-B	50'
Extra (High)	40-B	30'
	80-B	50'

FOR CLASS C HAZARDS

Class C ratings are required where energized electrical equipment is encountered. Since fire itself is a Class A or B hazard, the extinguishers are sized and located on the basis of the Class A or B hazard.

INSTALLATION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Portable fire extinguishers shall be securely installed on the hangers or in the bracket supplied or placed in cabinets or wall recesses. Wheeled-type extinguishers shall be in a designated location.

Extinguishers having a gross weight not exceeding 40 lbs. shall be installed so that the top of the extinguisher is not more than 5' above the floor.

Extinguishers having a gross weight greater than 40 lbs. shall be installed so that the top of the extinguisher is not more than 3'6" above the floor.