Fire Extinguisher Selection & Placement

The selection and placement of fire extinguishers in a commercial occupancy is dependant upon the type of fire that may be anticipated in the facility.

Fire types are broken down into several different categories;

Type A is a fire using paper, wood, or similar materials as a fuel source.
Type B is a fire where a liquid is the fuel source.
Type C is a fire involving energized electrical equipment.
Type D is a fire involving burning metals.

The minimum size and placement of fire extinguishers in a commercial occupancy shall be in accordance with NFPA 10.

- For typical low hazard occupancies the standard requires a 2A:10BC sized extinguisher as the minimum spaced at no further than 150 feet apart which limits the travel distance to the furthest extinguisher to no more than 75 feet.

Additional extinguishers In addition to spacing there should be at least one extinguisher for every 3000 square feet of space.

In occupancies that use vegetable oils or animal fats (commercial kitchen, food truck/trailer), a separate type of fire may occur driving a separate type of fire extinguisher requirement.

- A class “K” extinguisher is required in the immediate vicinity of the cooking area for this type of occupancy.
- Within the restaurant areas at least one 2A:10BC type fire extinguisher is required for every 3000 square feet
- In the service area the number of extinguishers required is 1 for each 1500 square feet.
The extinguisher(s) shall have a tag affixed to it indicating that an inspection and service has been provided to it within the last year along with the appropriate collar ring. **Only companies authorized by the Nevada State Fire Marshall’s office may perform this service.**

Every 30 days all fire extinguishers should be visually inspected for loss of pressure on the pressure gauge. This inspection may be done by the occupant and is documented on the back of the service tag.

Fire extinguishers shall be mounted in the normal path of egress with the top no higher than five feet above the floor. If the fire extinguisher is not readily visible a sign indicating the location of the fire extinguisher shall be placed in a readily visible location immediately adjacent to the fire extinguisher.