

Guardian Fire®

GUIDANCE NOTES

Thank you for purchasing a fire extinguisher from Guardian Fire Limited, one of the leading suppliers of fire extinguishers in the UK. **Guardian®** and **Vanguard®** fire extinguishers are manufactured to a high specification providing excellent fire protection with assured performance. Our products are fully featured extinguishers, they are designed to be refilled when necessary and are fitted with a pressure gauge, indicating serviceability at a glance. The 1.0 Kg and 2.0 Kg extinguishers are manufactured, independently inspected and certified to European/British Standard BS EN3: 1996. The 800 gm model is manufactured, inspected and certified to British Standard BS 5423: 1987 (with fire rating to European/British Standard BS EN3: 1996).

Important

Please read these installation instructions and the operating instructions on the fire extinguisher, so you are familiar with how to use it. In the stress of a fire emergency, you may not have time to familiarise yourself.

INSTALLATION:

MOTOR VEHICLES

A fire extinguisher should be immediately accessible to the occupants of the vehicle at all times, consequently do not place in the car boot or any other location where access is restricted. It is important that all extinguishers are firmly fixed otherwise they could cause injury during a car accident. They should also only be fitted where they cannot be stood upon or accidentally damaged.

Use the bracket provided and fit in a position either on the transmission tunnel, under the driver's seat, or in the front passenger footwell. Be careful if you drill; cables, fuel and brake pipes may be close by, if in doubt seek advice.

IN THE HOME

Install your extinguisher where it can be easily seen and reached in the event of an outbreak of fire, recommended installation areas include in the hallway, on a landing, or near possible sources of fire. It may be appropriate to have an extinguisher on each floor. Beware of electrical cables and gas/water pipes when drilling any mounting holes.

CARAVAN

Multi-purpose dry powder extinguishers are recommended for caravans and motor-homes and should be supplemented by a fire blanket. These should be conveniently located where they can be easily reached, and not put in a cupboard or drawer where valuable time could be lost searching for them when they are needed. An extinguisher will normally be mounted near the door and preferably high enough so as not to be inadvertently damaged or dislodged.

GARAGE

Install the extinguisher near the door, preferably around shoulder height. Again beware of any electrical cables or gas/water pipes when drilling.

WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE:

Get everybody outside and away from the danger area. Call the Fire Brigade. If the fire is small and you feel confident enough then you can attempt to fight the fire. If it is too intense then leave it to the Fire Brigade.

When tackling any fire, the objective is to blanket the flames with the extinguishant, so there is no need to get very close to the fire, simply close enough to reach the fire with the extinguisher (around 2m). **Do not** start discharging the extinguisher until you are in position. **Remember** - if the fire is too big, do not tackle it yourself, leave it to the fire brigade.

VEHICLES - ENGINE COMPARTMENT FIRES

Beware of windy conditions. **Do not** fully open the bonnet, as the rush of air will increase the size of the fire. If possible, release the

bonnet on to its safety catch and fire the extinguisher through the resulting gap. **Do not** attempt to open the bonnet further, even if the fire appears out, wait for the fire brigade's arrival.

AT HOME/WORK

Never use a fire extinguisher directly on a chip pan fire or cooking fat fire, these fires should always be tackled with a fire blanket or damp cloth to prevent the fire spreading and left for at least thirty minutes or so before checking that the fire is out. **Always** call the Fire Brigade, shut all doors and evacuate.

Do not fight any fires involving bottled or mains gas. In the event of a fire involving gas, shut-off the supply (if possible), evacuate immediately, call the Fire Brigade and warn them that gas is involved.

Guardian[®] and **Vanguard**[®] dry powder extinguishers are suitable for electrical fires up to 1000 volts, but the AFFF (foam) models **are not** suitable for electrical fires except low voltage (12 and 24 volt) vehicle fires.

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Periodical checking of the pressure gauge is required (monthly or more regularly) and if the needle is in the red sector, return to Guardian Fire Limited or your local fire protection engineer for recharging. **Do not** test prior to use, if partially discharged the extinguisher must be immediately taken out of service and returned to either Guardian Fire Limited or a competent fire protection engineer for refilling/recharging.

The British Standard recommendation (BS5306-3: 2003) is that each extinguisher should be properly inspected annually, and periodically discharged and refilled 5 years from the date of manufacture (for both dry powder and AFFF (foam) models). Providing the recommended maintenance instructions are followed your **Guardian**[®] or **Vanguard**[®] extinguisher will remain serviceable for many years.

Fire protection engineers can be located in your local telephone directory or yellow pages.

Classes of Fire

Each extinguisher indicates by the letters A, B and C the types of fire that it has been approved and certified to deal with and this is simplified by the following internationally recognised symbols.



Carbonaceous materials or organic materials such as wood, paper, fabric etc.



Liquid fires, such as petrol, diesel, fat, paints etc.



Flammable gases, such as Butane, Propane, Natural Gases etc.

Fire Ratings

These numbers indicate the size of the fire that the extinguisher has been tested and approved to deal with under British and European Standard Test criteria, the higher the number, the larger the fire the extinguisher will cope with. Please check your extinguisher for the actual rating.

For further information please contact:

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