

Extinguisher Technician - Portable Fire Extinguishers (TFM02) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. During which interval are internal exams required for stored pressure loaded stream fire extinguishers?**
 - A. Every 2 years**
 - B. Every 5 years**
 - C. Every 1 year**
 - D. Every 10 years**
- 2. For ordinary hazard occupancy, what is the minimum rated single extinguisher required?**
 - A. 1-A**
 - B. 2-A**
 - C. 4-A**
 - D. 5-A**
- 3. What is the minimum rated single extinguisher for light hazard occupancy?**
 - A. 1-A**
 - B. 2-A**
 - C. 4-A**
 - D. 5-A**
- 4. What is the maximum floor area per unit of A for extra hazard occupancy?**
 - A. 1500 ft²**
 - B. 2500 ft²**
 - C. 1000 ft²**
 - D. 2000 ft²**
- 5. What is a common sign of a malfunctioning fire extinguisher?**
 - A. A damaged pressure gauge or visible corrosion**
 - B. Full weight measurement**
 - C. New color marker on the label**
 - D. Plastic casing intact**

- 6. What is the first step in operating a fire extinguisher during an emergency?**
- A. Pull the safety pin**
 - B. Aim at the fire base**
 - C. Squeeze the handle**
 - D. Remove the extinguisher from its mount**
- 7. What could happen if a fire extinguisher is charged with the wrong agent?**
- A. It may become ineffective**
 - B. It will work perfectly**
 - C. It increases pressure**
 - D. It will become lighter**
- 8. Which fire extinguishing agent is most effective for Class B fires?**
- A. Dry chemical agents**
 - B. Water**
 - C. Foam agents**
 - D. Carbon dioxide**
- 9. How should fire extinguishers be maintained?**
- A. They should be checked annually for functionality**
 - B. They should be left unused for safety**
 - C. They do not require any maintenance**
 - D. They should be replaced every five years**
- 10. What type of fires are considered Class C?**
- A. Fires involving flammable liquids**
 - B. Fires involving electrical equipment**
 - C. Fires involving ordinary combustibles**
 - D. Fires involving metals**

Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. A
10. B

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Explanations

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1. During which interval are internal exams required for stored pressure loaded stream fire extinguishers?

- A. Every 2 years**
- B. Every 5 years**
- C. Every 1 year**
- D. Every 10 years**

Stored pressure loaded stream fire extinguishers require internal exams every year to ensure they are functioning safely and effectively. This annual inspection process is critical, as it allows technicians to check for any deterioration, leaks, or other issues that could impact the extinguisher's performance in an emergency. Regular internal examinations help maintain the integrity of the extinguisher and ensure compliance with safety regulations and standards. In contrast, longer intervals might apply to different types of inspections or maintenance checks, but for stored pressure extinguishers specifically, the annual internal examination is considered best practice to ensure that they are always ready for use.

2. For ordinary hazard occupancy, what is the minimum rated single extinguisher required?

- A. 1-A**
- B. 2-A**
- C. 4-A**
- D. 5-A**

In ordinary hazard occupancies, the minimum rated single extinguisher required is a 2-A rated extinguisher. This rating indicates that the extinguisher is suitable for fighting fires involving ordinary combustibles, such as wood, paper, and cloth. The '2' in the rating signifies the extinguisher's effectiveness in terms of the amount of water it is equivalent to (specifically, 2.5 gallons of water), and the 'A' indicates its capability against Class A fires. Selecting a 2-A rated extinguisher is critical because it ensures that there is an adequate level of fire suppression available to handle the types of fires most likely to occur in ordinary hazard situations. This is a key safety requirement, aimed at reducing the risks associated with common fire hazards typically found within such occupancies. A higher rating would offer more firefighting capacity but is not necessary as a minimum requirement for these scenarios, while a lower rating would not provide sufficient protection against typical fire hazards.

3. What is the minimum rated single extinguisher for light hazard occupancy?

- A. 1-A
- B. 2-A**
- C. 4-A
- D. 5-A

In light hazard occupancies, the minimum rated single extinguisher required is 2-A. This rating indicates the extinguisher's capacity to combat Class A fires, which involve ordinary combustibles like wood, paper, and textiles. The "A" rating signifies that the extinguisher is effective against these types of fires, and the number preceding it reflects the amount of water it can suppress in terms of equivalency. In a light hazard environment, the potential for fire is relatively lower compared to ordinary or high hazard locations, but it still requires adequate measures for fire protection. A 2-A rating provides sufficient coverage for such environments, allowing responders to effectively mitigate fire risks. Proper selection of an extinguisher aligned with the hazards present in a location is essential for effective fire safety compliance and response.

4. What is the maximum floor area per unit of A for extra hazard occupancy?

- A. 1500 ft²
- B. 2500 ft²
- C. 1000 ft²**
- D. 2000 ft²

In the context of fire safety regulations, extra hazard occupancies are defined as those spaces where the potential for fire is significantly increased due to the presence of flammable materials, processes involving combustion, or the storage of hazardous substances. For extra hazard occupancy, the maximum floor area per unit of A, which refers to the area that can be effectively protected by a portable fire extinguisher within this type of environment, is set at 1000 square feet. This guideline ensures that the risks associated with higher fire loads can be addressed effectively through the appropriate placement and availability of fire extinguishers, allowing for a quicker response and better management of potential fire incidents. Understanding the area limitations is crucial for compliance with fire safety standards and ensuring adequate fire protection measures within potentially hazardous settings. The other options represent larger areas, which do not align with the stringent safety requirements mandated for extra hazard occupancies.

5. What is a common sign of a malfunctioning fire extinguisher?

- A. A damaged pressure gauge or visible corrosion**
- B. Full weight measurement**
- C. New color marker on the label**
- D. Plastic casing intact**

A damaged pressure gauge or visible corrosion is indeed a common sign of a malfunctioning fire extinguisher. The pressure gauge plays a crucial role in indicating whether the extinguisher is charged and ready for use. If the gauge shows a reading outside the green zone, it may suggest that the extinguisher is either over-pressurized or under-pressurized, both of which can render it ineffective during an emergency. Additionally, visible corrosion can compromise the structural integrity of the extinguisher, leading to leaks or ruptures that could prevent it from functioning properly. In contrast, options indicating full weight measurement, a new color marker on the label, or an intact plastic casing do not necessarily relate to the operational readiness of a fire extinguisher. Full weight could mean it is still charged, but it alone does not confirm whether all components are functioning correctly. A new color marker might suggest a recent inspection or maintenance, but does not indicate the condition of the extinguisher. Having an intact plastic casing is a good sign, but it does not account for internal mechanisms or the pressure status that are critical for its operational safety.

6. What is the first step in operating a fire extinguisher during an emergency?

- A. Pull the safety pin**
- B. Aim at the fire base**
- C. Squeeze the handle**
- D. Remove the extinguisher from its mount**

The first step in operating a fire extinguisher during an emergency is to pull the safety pin. This action is crucial as it unlocks the extinguisher and allows you to activate it. Pulling the pin prevents accidental discharge and ensures that you have control over when to deploy the extinguisher. It's designed to keep the handle in place until you are ready to use the extinguisher. Once the pin is pulled, you can proceed to aim at the base of the fire, squeeze the handle, and remove the extinguisher from its mount, but these steps are only effective after the safety pin has been removed. Understanding this sequence is essential for proper extinguisher usage, as it directly influences safety and effectiveness during a fire emergency.

7. What could happen if a fire extinguisher is charged with the wrong agent?

A. It may become ineffective

B. It will work perfectly

C. It increases pressure

D. It will become lighter

When a fire extinguisher is charged with the incorrect agent, it may become ineffective in dealing with the type of fire it was designed to combat. Each fire-extinguishing agent is specifically formulated to target certain classes of fire. For instance, a foam extinguisher is effective for combating flammable liquids, while a dry chemical extinguisher is suitable for electrical and combustible material fires. If a different agent is used, it may not extinguish the fire effectively, potentially leading to a dangerous situation where the fire continues to spread and cause harm. Additionally, certain agents may react adversely with the materials involved in some fires, potentially exacerbating the situation rather than controlling it. Therefore, selecting the right extinguishing agent is crucial for ensuring safety and effectiveness during a fire emergency.

8. Which fire extinguishing agent is most effective for Class B fires?

A. Dry chemical agents

B. Water

C. Foam agents

D. Carbon dioxide

Dry chemical agents are the most effective for Class B fires, which involve flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, and solvents. These agents work by interrupting the chemical reaction of combustion, effectively suppressing the fire. Dry chemical extinguishers often contain agents like monoammonium phosphate or sodium bicarbonate, which can quickly smother the flames and prevent re-ignition. They are particularly advantageous in these scenarios because they are versatile and can be used on other fire classes as well. While foam agents can also be effective for Class B fires by suffocating the flames and forming a barrier between the fuel and the fire, their effectiveness can depend on the type of fuel and the surface area involved. Water is not suitable for Class B fires since it can cause the flames to spread by floating the burning liquid. Carbon dioxide extinguishers can be effective against Class B fires, especially in confined spaces, but they may not provide the same level of immediate and comprehensive suppression as dry chemical agents.

9. How should fire extinguishers be maintained?

A. They should be checked annually for functionality

B. They should be left unused for safety

C. They do not require any maintenance

D. They should be replaced every five years

Maintaining fire extinguishers is crucial for ensuring they are fully operational in case of a fire emergency. The practice of checking extinguishers annually for functionality involves a thorough inspection that verifies whether the pressure gauge is in the proper range, whether there are any visible signs of damage, and that the extinguishers are accessible and unobstructed. This routine maintenance helps to identify any problems before they become critical issues, ensuring that the extinguishers will work effectively when needed. This annual check aligns with guidelines set by fire safety regulations and industry standards. Proper maintenance can also include more frequent visual inspections to ensure that extinguishers remain in good condition between formal annual checks. Thus, this choice underscores the importance of proactivity in fire safety measures, emphasizing that fire extinguishers should always be operational and ready for use. The other options suggest practices that neglect proper upkeep and monitoring, which would compromise safety during a fire emergency.

10. What type of fires are considered Class C?

A. Fires involving flammable liquids

B. Fires involving electrical equipment

C. Fires involving ordinary combustibles

D. Fires involving metals

Class C fires specifically refer to those involving electrical equipment such as motors, transformers, and appliances. The distinguishing feature of Class C fires is the presence of energized electrical equipment, which necessitates particular caution when attempting to extinguish the fire. Using the wrong type of extinguisher could lead to electrocution or further ignition of the fire. Therefore, extinguishers designed for Class C fires are often non-conductive and suitable for safely managing these types of incidents, typically using agents such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) or dry chemical powders that do not conduct electricity. In contrast, the other options describe different classes of fires; for instance, fires involving flammable liquids fall under Class B, those involving ordinary combustibles, like wood or paper, classify as Class A, and fires that involve metals are categorized as Class D. Each type of fire requires a specific extinguishing method and agent, highlighting the importance of understanding these classifications in fire safety.