

Prevention

- Use good housekeeping at all times.
 - No combustible materials = no fuel = no fire.
- Hot work
 - Dispose of oily, greasy, paint-soaked rags in self-closing metal containers.
 - Remove flammable and combustible materials from below before conducting hot work from an upper level.
 - Isolate ignition sources with a welding screen or fire blanket.
 - Set up ignition sources in empty room, away from fuel sources whenever possible.
 - Fire watch should be part of the daily hot work routine.
 - Have a Class ABC fire extinguisher close at hand.
- Power tools
 - Inspect each tool before use. Look for exposed wires, damaged cords or damaged insulation.
 - Use commercial grade tools only.
- Temporary electrical panels
 - Make sure panels are assembled by a qualified electrician.
 - Never overload the panel.
- Flammable liquids
 - Keep flammables in approved, properly labeled containers with self-closing lids.
 - Keep flammables at least 50 feet away from sparks and flames.
 - Store all flammables in approved storage cabinets.

- Compressed gas cylinders
 - Avoid ignition sources like sparks, hot slag and flames.
 - Ensure cylinder valve wrenches are in place for quick shut-off in case it's necessary.
 - Close cylinder valves as soon as work is complete.
 - Ensure valve caps are in place before moving or storing cylinders.
 - Secure cylinders in an upright position.
 - Store cylinders in a dry, well-ventilated area at least 20 feet from combustible materials.
 - Ensure oxygen cylinders are stored at least 20 feet from fuel gas cylinders unless there is a non-combustible barrier at least 5 feet high with a fire resistance rating of at least one half-hour.
- Be aware of the location and actions of other trades around you.
 - No smoking except in designated areas.
 - Place portable heaters away from fuel sources.

If fire does occur:

- Alert everyone in the area.
- Make sure the fire department is responding.
- Determine if you can fight the fire.
 - Small, manageable fires can be fought **if you have an exit** in case the fire gets out of hand.
 - Know where the extinguishers are in your area.
 - Evacuate immediately if the fire is large or unmanageable.

How to fight a common jobsite fire safely

- Use a Class ABC extinguisher.
- Remember **P.A.S.S.**
 - **Pull** the pin.
 - **Aim** at the base of the fire.
 - **Squeeze** the handle.
 - **Sweep** at the base of the fire.