How do I use an extinguisher?

The following steps should be followed when extinguishing a fire in its incipient stages.

- Call 911 to have the fire department respond. **If you have the slightest doubt about your ability to extinguish a fire; EVACUATE immediately.**
- Make sure you are able to escape from your home should the fire become too large. Do not allow the fire, heat or smoke come between you and your way out of the home.
- Discharge the extinguisher by using the P.A.S.S. method. See illustration.
- Never turn your back on the fire and proceed to a place of safety.

**NOTE:**

When it comes to **commercial** and **multi-family** occupancies, certain building and fire code standards apply to these uses. This includes but not limited to yearly maintenance and inspection, placement and type of extinguishers for application. During an occupancy inspection fire personnel will dictate application in these particular settings as per codes.