

**Ask Jon Eakes**

# Using a Fire Extinguisher

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If you use a fire extinguisher: keep your back to your exit, aim at the base of the fire and sweep back and fourth. If it doesn't work, get out.

Most people spray the extinguisher over the flames themselves, but the real fire is lower down, where the stuff is actually burning. Sweep the extinguisher spray back and fourth across the base of the flames -- always with your back to the exit. Don't forget, the smoke will get you before the flames do so don't try to fight a big fire, and don't fight any fire for very long. Get out with your life. The house we can fix or rebuild later.

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