

Revised USCG fire extinguisher requirements for recreational vessels.



Effective April 20, 2022			
vessel length	No fixed system	With fixed system	pre-2022 requirement (superseded - for reference only)
<26 ft	a) one 5-B or b) one 10-B	0	one B-1
26< feet <40	a) two 5-B or two 10-B or b) one 20-B	a) one 5-B or b) one 10-B	two B-1
40< feet <65	a) three 5-B or b) three 10-B or c) one 20-B and one 5-B or one 10-B	a) two 5-B or two 10-B or b) one 20-B	a) three B-1 or b) two B-2

The new labeling for extinguishers includes ratings that reflect an extinguisher's ability to combat the classes of fires. UL uses letters to denote the types of fires an extinguisher is capable of fighting; and numbers that refer to the firefighting "capacity" relative to other extinguishers. For example, a 1-A, 10-B:C extinguisher is effective on Class A, B, and C fires, and a 40-B:C extinguisher has four times the extinguishing capacity as a 10-B:C extinguisher.

If your boat is model year 2018 or newer: you need to have fire extinguishers with the new rating system.

If your boat is model year 2017 or older: you may continue to use the extinguishers with the old rating system.

All ***disposable*** extinguishers expire 12 years after the date of manufacture stamped on the bottom and must be replaced.