



Advice on Portable Firefighting Equipment for Home Use

Regarding an article published recently about portable firefighting equipment for home use, this Department wishes to provide further information and recommendations:

Apart from any fire service installations and equipment which are required to be installed under the law, this Department encourages the public to equip portable firefighting equipment (e.g. fire extinguishers and fire blankets) on a voluntary basis for home use in emergencies. According to the Fire Service (Installations and Equipment) Regulations, all sales and supplies of portable firefighting equipment must be approved by this Department and only these approved products should be purchased. For more information about approved portable firefighting equipment, please visit (http://www.hkfsd.gov.hk/eng/accep_eq.html).

To keep these home use fire extinguishers and fire blankets in efficient working order, Class 3 Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSIC) should be hired to inspect and maintain them, preferably annually. Furthermore, all fire extinguishers **SHALL** undergo a hydraulic test by a Class 3 RFSIC at least once in every 5 years.

A fire blanket is for extinguishing small cooking oil fires. A “Light-Duty” type fire blanket must be replaced after use. For a “Heavy-Duty” type fire blanket, a Class 3 RFSIC should be hired to inspect it after each use to ensure that it is still fit for purpose. As a fire blanket is designed to extinguish a small fire, it is not recommended to wrap one’s body for escaping from a fire.

For further information, please contact Senior Station Officer (Investigation and Research) on 2733 7827.

Hong Kong Fire Services Department
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