

# How to Use a Fire Extinguisher

Fire and Emergency NZ recommends the following steps in using a fire extinguisher during an emergency. One official firefighting acronym you should keep in mind is **PTASS** which stands for:

**P**ull the safety clip off the fire extinguisher.

**T**est the fire extinguisher before you approach the fire, Squeeze the handle for small initial bursts from the canister, this is a sign that the fire extinguisher works.

**A**im the nozzle low, direct it at the base of the fire, but please do this from a safe distance.

**S**queeze the handle to release the fire suppressant material.

**S**weep the fire extinguisher from side to side but keep your aim at the base of the fire.