

# Fire Protection for Recreational Boats

New regulation goes into effect on 04/20/2022

Start Here

Is Fire Extinguisher  
Readily Accessible?

- ✓ Marine Type U.S.C.G.?
- ✓ Correct Classification (Note 1)?
- ✓ Not > 12 years old (Note 2)?

Good & Serviceable?  
(Note 3)

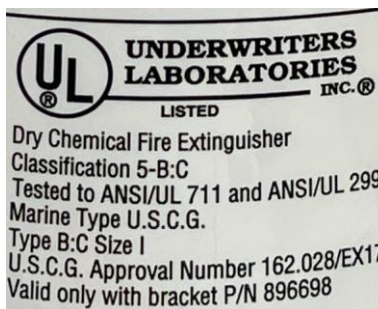
- Note 1 – a.** Extinguishers **UL Classified 5-B:C/10-B:C** (or greater) meet carriage requirements for ALL recreational vessels regardless of vessel age.
- b.** Extinguishers rated as **Marine Type USCG Type B:C, size I or size II** are only acceptable on vessels built model year 2017 or earlier.  
(*Model year* means the period beginning June 1 of a year and ending on July 31 of the following year and being designated by the year in which it ends.)
- c.** Ratings that include higher numbers or more letters are acceptable.
- d.** One 20-B extinguisher may be carried to replace two required 5-B extinguishers.
- e.** There are special rules for vessels built prior to 1952.

**Note 2 –** Make sure disposable fire extinguisher is not more than 12 years old from date stamp on bottle. Must be removed from service on 31 December of the 12<sup>th</sup> year.

**Note 3 –** See Good & Serviceable meaning below.

[Link to Federal Register Notice: 2021-22578.pdf \(govinfo.gov\)](#)

Label example



Date Stamp  
Example



**Good and serviceable** working condition means:

- (i)** If the extinguisher has a pressure gauge reading or indicator it must be in the operable range or position;
- (ii)** The lock pin is firmly in place;
- (iii)** The discharge nozzle is clean and free of obstruction; and
- (iv)** The extinguisher does not show visible signs of significant corrosion or damage.

[WWW.USCGBOATING.ORG](http://WWW.USCGBOATING.ORG)