

# FIRE EXTINGUISHER



The United States FMCSA regulates what items trucks transport and how they transport them for the safety of everyone on the road. One of the most common violations under the Federal motor carrier safety administration (CSA) program is a discharged or unsecured fire extinguisher. Having a fire extinguisher in your vehicle could mean the difference between having it fixed or sitting on the side of the road watching while it goes in flames.

Fire extinguishers are subject to certain labeling and packaging requirements, and civil or criminal penalties can result from violations of FMCSA rules and regulations. Fire extinguishers must be designed and handled so users can easily determine if they're full, and must be easily accessible and securely mounted so they don't move or shift during transport. During your vehicle inspection you must make sure you're meeting these requirements.

**NOTE:** A fire extinguisher must be mounted and within easy reach of the driver. It is a violation that can be avoided very easily. Just make sure your fire extinguisher is mounted securely next to the driver's seat, and that its gauge indicates is fully charged. A fire extinguisher should never be rolling or sliding on the floor of the cab or under the bed of the motor vehicle.

