

WAREHOUSE OCUPANCIES

The B.C. Fire Code requires building owners/occupants to comply with the requirements on this checklist.

These requirements are in addition to those listed in the Fire Safety & You booklet.

Warehouse uses Include: warehousing and storage, shipping and receiving.

Checklist: Common Fire Service Requirements

- Address:** must be visible from road and lane, free from foliage, trees, etc. and in a contrasting colour.
- Electrical equipment:** must be free of dust, with clearance from combustibles.
- Emergency lighting:** may be provided by battery packs with remote and attached heads, or by emergency generators that will illuminate specified A/C fixtures or remote light heads. Must be operational, with no visible damage, and serviced and tagged annually by a certified technician.
- Exit doors:** must not be locked or blocked from either the inside or outside. Must be unlocked from the inside when the building is occupied.
- Exit signs:** must be visible and remain illuminated at all times when building is occupied.
- Exposures such as pallets or flammable items:** should be noted as to location and type.
- Fire alarm systems:** must have a working A/C power-on bulb and be in good working condition with no audible or visual damage. Must have a current service tag (within the last 12 months) and up-to-date logbook.
- Fire doors:** must not be blocked or wedged open, including stairwell doors. No door wedges to be used.
- Fire hose cabinets:** there must be clear access to cabinets and the hose must be in good repair and complete with nozzles.
- Fire hydrants:** must be accessible, free of damage and serviced within the specified date. Private hydrants require annual service, with records kept on site.
- Fire lanes:** must have an adequate clear width of six unobstructed metres.
- Fire separations:** must have no holes or openings that compromise their purpose.
- Forklifts:** propane and gasoline-fired forklifts require a minimum rating 2A-10BC.
- Garbage disposal:** commercial containers must be located six metres from combustible buildings, and if inside, should have tight-fitting lids and be in fire-separated rooms.
- 'No smoking' signs:** must be posted in hazardous areas.
- Portable fire extinguishers must:**
 - be located adjacent to corridors or aisles that provide access to exits.
 - be mounted in a visible location, accessible, and serviced and tagged at least once per year by a certified technician.
 - be full and functioning (no leaks, damage, corrosion, broken parts or clogged nozzles).
 - have a minimum rating 2A-10BC.
- Portable heaters:** must be an approved type and kept away from combustibles.
- Propane cylinders:** cylinders inside must be connected to appliance/equipment and all cylinders (full or empty) must be stored outside in a secure location.
- Sprinkler and standpipe connections:** must be capped, free of debris and accessible.
- Sprinkler systems:** must be inspected/tested by a qualified personnel at least once per year. Must have a current service tag (within the last 12 months) and up-to-date logbook.
- Sprinkler valves:** must be in open position, either locked and chained or sealed and monitored electronically. No storage permitted within 18 in. of bottom of sprinkler heads.
- Storage arrangement:** maximum height of storage of commodities must comply with the sprinkler system design.
- Waste paper containers:** in public areas must not be combustible.



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