

Target Keyword: Fire Prevention Tips for Your Warehouse
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Fire safety in a warehouse environment involves more than meeting all of the standard fire codes and being minimally compliant to avoid fines from the fire marshal. Minimal compliance translates to minimal protection in case of emergency or fire.

To be fully protected, even if a warehouse fire occurs, you have to be as prepared for the worst case scenario as possible. Providing fire prevention tips for your warehouse should be part of your total preparation plan. You can't eliminate the possibility of fire, but you can minimize the possibility by taking the proper counter-measures beforehand.

The Configuration of Prevention

The regulated steps tell you how to operate and maintain your sprinkler system, where and how to arrange warehouse aisles and stock shelves, how to measure flue space, and where to store and dispose of flammable liquid containers like propane. For the long-term well-being of your employees, you need standards that go beyond the day-to-day basics – you need a full arsenal of fire prevention tips for your warehouse.

Luckily, at 5sToday, our company understands the ever-changing nature of working in a warehouse. The reality is you could be in full compliance one minute and out of compliance the next.

How is this possible? Quite simply: there are often changes in the composition of the products you store, changes in packaging, or an overall alteration to the warehouse configuration and layout. All of these things can change on short notice. All of these things qualify as something a safety inspector might miss. And all these things affect your level of fire safety.

For the reasons outlined above, it is best to have customized fire prevention tips for your warehouse. What does a customized prevention plan look like? You're about to find out.

The Top 5 Tips that Prevent Warehouse Fires

Tip #1: Have an evacuation plan in place. Obviously, every commercial building needs one of these, but constructing fire prevention tips for your warehouse dictates that the plan works a little differently than it would for say, a traditional office building. The layout of a warehouse is always changing;

therefore, the focus should not be on getting employees to assigned exits. Rather, find the easiest ways to access those exits, no matter what the layout is. Once the routes have been plotted, run drills so the employees know exactly what to do and how to get to the closest exit as calmly as possible.

Tip #2: Remember, having the proper tools and training employees on how to use them can keep fires from getting out of control. Fire extinguisher training is one of the best skills you can equip your employees with. It can keep small fires from getting out of hand. Not only that, the training teaches your employees to keep their composure in an emergency situation, and how to quickly and effectively respond in the event there is a fire.

Tip #3: Keep storage and staging to a designated area. Blocking off areas of the warehouse and designating them for certain activities or types of storage reduces exposure to possible fire hazards during duty operations. Keeping the aisles clear, easy to access, and well-marked insures that if evacuation is necessary, the process stays organized and efficient.

To #4: Don't allow trash and other flammable items to accumulate. Out of everything we've covered thus far, this is probably the most common sense tip on the list. You don't need a fire inspection company, fire marshal, or investigator to help you with this.

Logically, an area covered with trash, wooden pallets, crates, and other containers and storage items invites a high-risk of fire. Have multiple trash cans strategically positioned throughout the warehouse and keep employees on task when it comes to emptying them as they fill up. Unused pallets and storage supplies should be stacked no more than 6 feet high.

Tip #5: The provisions for fire safety have to match the job performed by your warehouse employees. It may seem like this should go without saying, but we're saying it anyway: when an employee's job puts them in contact with flammable substances every day, part of the fire prevention tips for your warehouse needs to include investment in flame retardant clothing. Employees who work in:

- Automated material handling operations
- Battery charging areas
- Plastics and glass assembly areas
- Aerosol and hazmat disposal

All of these employees will benefit from Drifire flame retardant clothing.

Keep your warehouse well-organized, clean, and flowing at its optimum by using our high-quality tools. We know that choosing 5s manufacturing and safety supplies can be confusing. We are here to answer any questions, and guide you through the Lean Process from start to finish. Talk to the forward-thinking people behind the best Lean Products on the market and begin your Lean Journey today.