

Includes places used for gatherings of people, e.g.:

- Places of worship
- Nightclubs/pubs
- Community Halls
- Libraries



Assembly Occupancies

CHECKLIST: COMMON FIRE SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

The B.C. Fire Code requires building owners and occupants to comply with the requirements on this checklist and in the Fire Safety & You brochure.

- **Address:** must be visible from road and lane, free from foliage, trees, etc. and in a contrasting colour.
- **Aisleways:** must provide a clear access to exits.
- **Decorations:** must be non-combustible or treated.
- **Drapes:** must be treated.
- **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. Must have panic hardware that releases when a force of 20 pounds or less is applied.
- **Exit signs:** must be visible and remain illuminated at all times the building is occupied.
- **Extension cords:** kept to a minimum and not overloaded.
- **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. Must have closures and no wedges to hold open fire rated doors.
- **Fire Safety Plan:** Must be reviewed and revised yearly.
- **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 separations:** must have no holes or openings that compromise their purpose.
- **Garbage disposal:** commercial containers must be located three metres from combustible buildings. If inside, commercial containers should have tight-fitting lids and be in fire-separated rooms.
- **Occupant Load:** Submit occupant load calculation per BC Building Code to Development Services (Building Inspector) for review.
- **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 every 12 months by a certified technician.
 - Be full and functioning (no damage, corrosion, leaks, malfunctioning parts or clogged nozzles).
 - Have a minimum rating 2A-10BC.
- **Portable heaters:** must be an approved type and kept away from combustibles.
- **Sprinkler systems:** must be inspected and tested by qualified personnel at least once per year. Must have a current service tag (within the last 12 months) and up-to-date logbook.

Contact:

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Fire Prevention
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