



# Fire Department

## HEADQUARTERS

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## CODE SUMMARY

### PERMITS - REPAIR GARAGES

A code summary is a compilation of code sections related to a specific occupancy or permit. This code summary lists sections of code pertaining to Repair Garages and operations as defined by the **California Fire Code**. Under each heading you will find the correlating code language and the reference cited. These requirements pertain to existing buildings. New construction may be subject to additional requirements. Please feel free to direct any questions to the Fire Prevention Division at (805) 681-5500.

#### SCOPE:

Buildings, structures or portions thereof used for servicing or repairing motor vehicles shall be in accordance with Chapter 23 of the California Fire Code. Where a repair garage also includes a motor fuel-dispensing facility, the fuel-dispensing operation shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 23 for fuel dispensing.

#### 1. Extinguishers Required:

- A. One Class 2-A rated fire extinguisher shall be provide for each 6000 sq. ft. of light hazard fuel load or one Class 2-A rated fire extinguisher for each 3000 sq. ft. of ordinary hazard fuel load. Travel distance shall not exceed 75 feet. (CFC 906.3.1)
- B. A Class B rated fire extinguisher shall be provided in accordance with Table 906.3(2) of the CFC. (CFC 906.3.2)

TYPE OF HAZARD	BASIC MINIMUM EXTINGUISHER RATING	MAXIMUM TRAVEL DISTANCE TO EXTINGUISHERS	
		(in feet)	(in meters)
<i>Light (low)</i>	<i>5B</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>9.15</i>
	<i>10B</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>15.25</i>
<i>Ordinary (moderate)</i>	<i>10B</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>9.15</i>
	<i>20B</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>15.25</i>
<i>Extra (high)</i>	<i>40B</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>9.15</i>
	<i>80B</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>15.25</i>

- C. Fire extinguisher shall not be obstructed or obscured from view. (CFC 906.6)
- D. Fire extinguishers not housed in cabinets, shall be installed on the hangers or brackets supplied. Hangers or brackets shall be securely anchored to the mounting surface in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. (CFC 906.7)
- E. Extinguishers shall be inspected monthly by the building owner or occupant, or electronically monitored. (T19 Sec. 574.1)
- F. Extinguishers shall be subject to maintenance annually by licensed technician. (T19 Sec. 575.1)

#### 2. Flammable and Combustible Liquids:

- A. An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 5 gallons of flammable liquid indoors or 10 gallons of flammable liquid outdoors. (CFC 105.6.16)
- B. An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 25 gallons of combustible liquid indoors or 60 gallons of combustible liquid outdoors. (CFC 105.6.16)

- C. An operational permit is required to conduct spraying or dipping operation utilizing flammable or combustible liquids or the application of combustible powders. (CFC 105.6.41)
- D. Spray finishing operations shall be conducted in a spray room, spray booth or limited spraying space approved for such use. (CFC 2404.2)
- E. Quantities of flammable and combustible liquids in excess of 10 gallons used for maintenance purposes and operation of equipment shall be stored in liquid storage cabinets. (CFC 5704.3.4.4)

### **3. Use of flammable and combustible liquids:**

- A. Cleaning of parts shall be conducted in listed and approved parts-cleaning machines in accordance with Chapter 57. (CFC 2311.2.1)
- B. Waste oil, motor oil, and other Class 3B liquids shall be stored in approved tanks or containers. (CFC 2311.2.2)
- C. Tanks storing Class 3B liquids in repair garages are allowed to be located at, below or above grade, provided that adequate drainage or containment is provided. (CFC 2311.2.2.1)
- D. Crankcase drainings shall be classified as Class 3B liquids unless otherwise determined by testing. (CFC 2311.2.2.2)
- E. Garage floor drains, where provided, shall drain to approved oil separators or traps. (CFC 2311.2.3)
- F. Crankcase drainings shall not be dumped into sewers, streams or on the ground, but shall be stored in approved tanks or containers. (CFC 2311.2.3.1)
- G. Self-closing metal cans shall be used for oily waste. (CFC 2311.2.3.2)

### **4. Sources of ignition shall be controlled.**

- A. Sources of ignition shall not be located within 18 inches of the floor. (CFC 2311.3)
- B. Appliances and equipment installed in a repair garage shall comply with the provisions of the *California Building Code*, the *California Mechanical Code* and the *California Electrical Code*. (CFC 2311.3.1)
- C. Smoking and open flames shall be prohibited in repair garages except in approve locations. (CFC 2311.3.2)

### **5. Ventilation required for below-grade work areas.**

- A. Where Class 1 liquids or LP-gas are stored or used within a building having a basement or pit wherein flammable vapors could accumulate, the basement or pit shall be provide with mechanical ventilation in accordance with the California Mechanical Code to prevent the accumulation of flammable vapors. (CFC 2311.4.3)

### **6. Repair garages for vehicle fueled by lighter-than-air fuels.**

For requirements for repair garages for vehicles fueled by lighter-than-air fuels, see Chapter 23, Section 2311.7 of the *California Fire Code* (CFC 2311.7)