

# What if a fire erupts?

→ Actions and decisions in the event of a fire

→ Using a fire extinguisher

Exercise caution, Act promptly

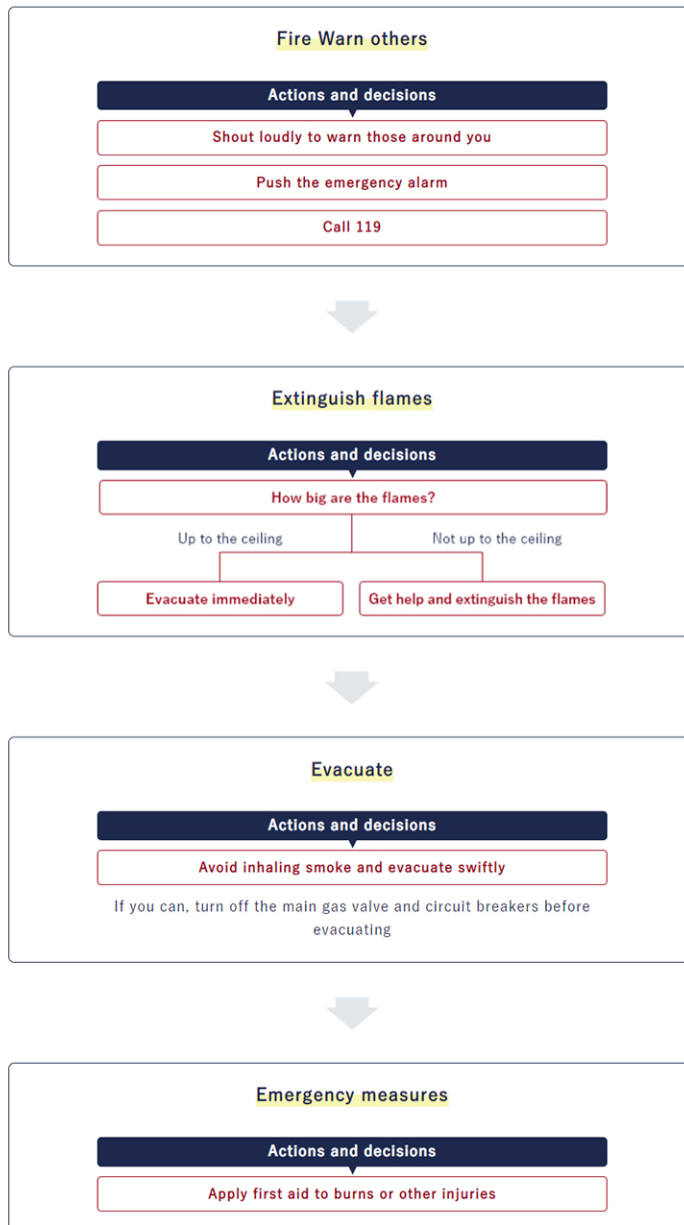
→ Warn others

→ Extinguish flames

→ Evacuate

→ Fire Prevention Points

## Actions and decisions in the event of a fire



## Using a fire extinguisher

1. Pull out the safety pin
2. Detach the hose and point the nozzle at the source of the fire  
(Effective distance: About 3m)
3. Firmly grip the lever and spray the extinguishing agent

## Exercise caution, Act promptly

### Warn others

- Yell "Fire" to let others know and seek help. If you cannot yell, make a loud noise by banging pots and pans.
- If there is an emergency alarm, push it. Call 119 even for small fires.

#### Remain calm and call 119

Clearly and accurately communicate the location of the fire.

Ex.:

"I'd like to report a fire at Ritsumeikan University, in Kinugasa, Kita-ku."

"The XYZ on the western side of the campus is on fire."

### Extinguish flames

- Make a judgment

If a fire has been burning for less than three minutes and the flames do not reach the ceiling, it can be extinguished. Judge the situation quickly and act calmly and swiftly. If you determine the fire cannot be extinguished, evacuate immediately.

- Precautions

If there is a fire extinguisher, use it. Aim for the source of the fire.

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Electrical Appliances               | First unplug the cord from the wall socket and flip the circuit breaker, if possible, before extinguishing the fire. Beware of electric shock if attempting to extinguish with water.  |
| Kerosene Heaters                    | Cover the heater with a blanket and douse it with a full bucket of water from above.   |
| Cigarettes                          | Even if you think you've extinguished a cigarette, it may still ignite even without emitting smoke after several hours. Use extensive amounts of water to extinguish the cigarette.  |
| Oil Pans                            | Cover the pan with a well-fitting lid while shielding yourself and then turn off the gas valve. Wet a large piece of cloth such as a bed sheet, wring out excess water, and completely cover the pan, then turn off the gas valve.<br><i>*In either case, be sure the temperature as completely returned to normal before taking off the lid or cloth.</i> |
| Curtains and Japanese Sliding Doors | Teardown the curtain or knock down the door and extinguish the fire at its base from a safe distance.  |
| Clothing                            | Roll around on the ground until the fire is extinguished. If near the bathroom, particularly if a bath has already been drawn, douse yourself in water.  |

### Evacuate

If you decide a fire cannot be extinguished, evacuate in a timely manner.

- Four "don'ts" of safe evacuation[Don't push / Don't run / Don't talk / Don't go back]
  - Leave your belongings behind and evacuate immediately.
  - Help children, the elderly and the sick evacuate first.
  - Never re-enter a burning building once you leave it.
  - If there are people left inside, let the firefighters know.

- If you get enveloped in smoke...

Smoke contains large quantities of toxic gas that can knock you unconscious if you inhale it.

When you evacuate, place a towel over your mouth and nose to avoid smoke inhalation and keep your face low to the ground. Breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth.

- Evacuating from a fire

If a fire spreads to within 300m upwind, 150m laterally or 100m downwind, begin evacuating immediately. Keep an eye on the situation and evacuate along a safe route. Be sure to confirm these distances as part of your daily routine using landmarks on campus.

**Fire Prevention Points**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Electrical Appliances</b>    | Do not overload outlets and place heavy objects on cords, pay attention to plugs that may overheat, and be sure to unplug appliances after use.                                   |
| <b>Heaters</b>                  | Properly adjust the flame after turning on the heater, make sure there is nothing flammable nearby, do not sleep with the heater on, and do not refuel the heater while it is on. |
| <b>Cigarettes</b>               | Be sure there are no burning embers in the ashtray when emptying it and do not smoke in bed.  |
| <b>Gas Stoves</b>               | Do not leave a stove unattended while on and be careful of frying oil catching fire.  |
| <b>Wood Fires and Fireworks</b> | Keep water nearby and douse the remnants with water.  |
| <b>Arson</b>                    | Prevent opportunities for arson by putting trash out in the morning on the designated collection day and keep the area around your home clear of flammable materials.             |