

Fire Blanket General Directions

Your fire blanket is provided in a metal container to house the blanket when not in use. The blanket should be wall-mounted in a central location easily visible to laboratory or chemical storeroom occupants.



A fire blanket is a versatile safety aid. It is used primarily as a first aid measure for prevention of shock rather than as a fire extinguisher for burning or smoldering clothes. It is also useful to contain and control chemical spills in the laboratory. The fire blanket is a one-use safety aid. If it is used to extinguish a fire or for spill control, it should be replaced with a new one.

Fire

The blanket should only be used as a last resort measure to extinguish clothing fires. Fire blankets tend to hold in heat and may increase the severity of a burn. Clothing fires are better extinguished by dropping to the floor and rolling. Ideally, a safety shower is available and used to extinguish clothing fires.

The victim may want to use the fire blanket to extinguish a fire involving his person. It would be wise, therefore, to mount the fire blanket on a wall at a height that would easily enable the victim to get the blanket without the need to stand up. Standing up to acquire a fire blanket, while clothing is on fire, should be avoided.

If the blanket is mounted at a proper height (perhaps 40" from the floor), a sign (placard) needs to be installed at eye level above the fire blanket to clearly signal its location to room occupants. Do not store fire blankets in unmarked drawers, they are too difficult to find and are not accessible.

The best use of a fire blanket is to wrap an injured person in the blanket to keep them warm and to help them avoid shock.

Spill Control

A fire blanket is also an excellent spill control device because it will contain and control a spill and its vapors. If a spill occurs and no spill control materials are available, simply throw the fire blanket over the spill. The blanket will begin to absorb the liquid, contain the vapors, and will enable a person to walk over the spill without slipping. Remember, acid spilled on a tile floor will become very slippery and the potential for slipping and falling into the acid spill is a real concern. Fire blankets are often overlooked as a spill control device but are actually one of the least expensive and most useful pieces of safety equipment.

This fire blanket is made flame retardant in accordance with the Federal Flammables Fabric Act, CS 191-53.

Be sure you, the science teacher, regularly instruct your students in the use of safety aids and include the use of a fire blanket in that safety instruction.

Cleaning Directions — Dry Cleaning Preferred!

Wash according to the following instructions only. We are not responsible if any other method is used.

Machine Wash

Wash each blanket separately using cool water and mild detergent. Agitate gently for two minutes at high water level. Do not use a bleaching agent.

To Rinse

Use two one minute rinses only and spin dry.

Hand Dry

Hang lengthwise over a line, folded in half, distributing the weight evenly. Pull gently into shape. When partially dry, reverse position on the line. To restore fluffiness, shake occasionally while blanket is drying. Brush gently when thoroughly dry. Wash according to the above instructions only. We are not responsible if any other method is used.

***Fire Blankets* are available from Flinn Scientific, Inc.**

| Catalog No. | Description |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| SE3006 | Fire Blanket, with Case |
| SE3007 | Fire Blanket, without Case |

Consult your *Flinn Scientific Catalog/Reference Manual* for current prices.