



# Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

STRUCTURE FIRES

**TOPIC:** Structure Fire Tactics

**TIME FRAME:** 2 Hours

**LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:**

**BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:**

*Condition:* A written quiz

*Behavior:* Student will list and describe tactics, priorities, and related considerations for combating structure fires.

*Standard:* With a minimum of 70% accuracy

**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Appropriate visual aids
- audio visual equipment

**REFERENCES:**

- IFSTA, Fire Protection Handbook, 16th Edition
- NFPA, Firefighting Tactics & Strategy, Layman

**PREPARATION:**

Once the incident abatement objectives, priorities and attack strategy is decided upon, the initial attack Incident Commander must concentrate on the tactics to be employed.

Selection of an improper tactic can seriously jeopardize the safety of firefighters and victims and may further damage the burning structure.



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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p><b>I. TACTICS</b></p> <p>A. Defined</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A series of tasks or operations undertaken to achieve a single objective</li></ol> <p>B. An Operations Function</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How is the objective to be accomplished</li><li>2. Which resources are to be assigned to accomplish that objective</li><li>3. There are eight major divisions of structural firefighting tactics. The first six must be considered in sequence. The last two may be implemented anywhere.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Size-up</li><li>b. Rescue</li><li>c. Exposure</li><li>d. Confinement</li><li>e. Extinguish</li><li>f. Overhaul</li><li>g. Salvage</li><li>h. Ventilation</li></ol></li></ol> <p><b>II. SIZE-UP OVERVIEW</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Responsibility of Initial Attack Incident Commander</li><li>B. Basis for All Planning Efforts</li><li>C. Continuous Process of Re-evaluation Throughout Life of the Incident</li></ol>	



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<p>D. Need to Gather Critical Information Not All Information</p> <p>E. Must be Completed Expeditiously at Outset</p> <p><b>III. RESCUE OVERVIEW</b></p> <p>A. Must Consider</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Number of victims</li><li>2. Location of victims</li><li>3. Number of evacuees</li><li>4. Location of evacuees</li><li>5. Number of firefighters needed</li><li>6. Number of firefighters available</li><li>7. Specialized equipment needed</li><li>8. Specialized equipment available</li><li>9. Remove victims/evacuees from the structure</li><li>10. Protect victims/evacuees in place</li><li>11. Time needed to perform rescue</li><li>12. Time available to perform rescue</li><li>13. Safety of firefighting personnel</li></ol> <p><b>IV. EXPOSURE OVERVIEW</b></p> <p>A. Must Consider</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Interior exposure</li><li>2. Exterior exposure</li><li>3. Type and construction of exposure</li></ol>	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. Location in relation to fire</li><li>5. Resources needed</li><li>6. Resources available</li><li>7. Value of exposure</li><li>8. Hazards associated with exposure</li><li>9. Probability of save</li></ul>	
<p><b>V. CONFINEMENT OVERVIEW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Must Consider<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Size of fire</li><li>2. Intensity of fire</li><li>3. Direction of fire spread</li><li>4. Rate of fire spread</li><li>5. Access to fire</li><li>6. Resources needed</li><li>7. Resources available</li><li>8. Safety of personnel</li></ul></li></ul>	
<p><b>VI. EXTINGUISHMENT OVERVIEW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Must Consider<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Size of fire</li><li>2. Intensity of fire</li><li>3. Direction of fire spread</li><li>4. Rate of fire spread</li></ul></li></ul>	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. Access to fire</li><li>6. Resources needed</li><li>7. Resources available</li><li>8. Safety of personnel</li></ul> <p><b>VII. OVERHAUL OVERVIEW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Must Consider<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Structural integrity of building</li><li>2. Need for preliminary investigation</li><li>3. Demarcation of hazardous conditions</li><li>4. Accountability for valuable contents</li><li>5. Need for firefighter rest and rehabilitation</li><li>6. Specialized resources needed</li><li>7. Likelihood and location of potentially hidden fire</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>VIII. VENTILATION OVERVIEW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Must Consider<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Need for ventilation</li><li>2. Type of ventilation</li><li>3. Resources needed</li><li>4. Resources available</li><li>5. Time to accomplish</li><li>6. Effect on interior operations</li><li>7. Best location</li></ul></li></ul>	



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<p>8. Shut down of existing system</p> <p><b>IX. SALVAGE OVERVIEW</b></p> <p>A. Must Consider</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. When to start</li><li>2. Where to start</li><li>3. Resources needed</li><li>4. Resources available</li><li>5. Protection in place</li><li>6. Removal from structure</li><li>7. Accountability for valuables</li></ol>	



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## ***SUMMARY:***

Tactical operations should be considered in priority order. That does not necessarily mean they will be undertaken in that sequence, however. On a given incident two or more of the tactics may not be necessary and on others the last tactic considered may be the first one embarked upon.

The limiting factor in how many tactical operations can be undertaken simultaneously is generally the number of personnel available. Incorporation of rest and rehabilitation periods in the plan will increase productivity and minimize the number and severity of injuries.

## ***EVALUATION:***

A written quiz.

## ***ASSIGNMENT:***

To be determined by instructor(s).