

DAYCARE OCCUPANCIES

Owner/occupant inspection information



Checklist: Common fire service requirements

- Address:** must be visible from road and lane, free from foliage, and in a contrasting colour.
- Aisleways:** must provide clear access to exits.
- Candles:** must be securely supported in non-combustible containers, and located away from combustible materials.
- Combustible artwork:** shall not exceed 20% of the wall or ceiling area.
- Daycares with an occupancy load of up to 40 persons:** require a Fire Safety Plan to BC Building Code and BC Fire Code regulations.
- Daycares with an occupancy load of 40 persons or more:** are required to have emergency lighting, to BC Building Code regulations 3.2.7.3(1) and 9.9.1.1.
- Egress:** each facility must have two means of egress from each floor area.
- Electrical outlets:** must be protected with secure covers.
- 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.
- 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 drills:** must be held at least once per month.
- Fire Safety Plan:** shall be in place showing procedures for evacuation, use of fire extinguisher, emergency numbers and conform to BC Fire Code 2.8.
- Fire separations:** must have no holes or openings that compromise their purpose.
- Furnace area:** must be segregated from the daycare by a proper fire separation.
- Smoke alarms:** are required for each floor area.
- Locking devices on exit doors:** shall be readily able to open from the inside.

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 leaks, damage, corrosion, malfunctioning parts or clogged nozzles).
- have a minimum rating 2A-10BC.
- Portable heaters:** must be an approved type and kept away from combustibles.
- Waste receptacles:** shall be of non-combustible material.

Daycare uses include:

- Daycares
- Preschools

The B.C. Fire Code requires building owners and occupants to comply with the requirements on this checklist.

**North Cowichan
Fire Department**

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NORTH
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