PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE FITFACTS



Be Nice

Prevent Harm

Survive

Fit to Survive

The Demands of a Fire Fighter

The job of a fire fighter is one of the most physically demanding. It requires high levels of aerobic fitness, anaerobic fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance and flexibility. Every year, 1 out of 3 fire fighters in the United States gets injured. Many of these injuries are due to sprains and strains. In addition, 48% of all fire fighters deaths are from cardiovascular disease. When we say fire fighters need to be fit to survive, we mean it.



Fire Fighters MUST BE:

- ☑ Physically Fit
- ☑ Mentally Fit
- ☑ Emotionally Fit



Getting the Job?

In order to become a fire fighter you must pass a rigorous physical test. This test consists of 8 physically demanding events that fire fighters commonly do on a fire. The test, called the CPAT, or Candidate Physical Ability Test, is used all around the country to test a candidate's ability to be a fire fighter. To pass the CPAT, just like to be a safe and effective fire fighter you must be in top physical shape.

The CPAT Events

- Stair Climb
- Hose Drag and Pull
- Equipment Carry
- Ladder Raise
- Forcible Entry
- Search Maze
- Rescue
- Ceiling Breach and Pull

Critical and Physically Demanding Tasks of Fire Fighting

These are some of the tasks that a fire fighter must do in a safe and efficient manner to be successful.

- Connect and open a fire hydrant.
- Pull and advance a hoseline.
- Remove and raise ladders.
- Remove and carry equipment from the truck to the scene.
- Extricate victims from trapped vehicles.
- Force entry into locked buildings.
- Search for victims in smoky buildings with limited visibility.
- Remove victims or your partner from a fire.
- Climb stairs while wearing full protective clothing (50lbs), while carrying tools and hose bundles (25 to 50lbs).
- Ventilating roofs using hand and power tools.
- Remove furniture and valuables to safety.
- Assist customer's with securing their house or business after the fire.

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