

Garage Fires

Attacking Garage Fires

There are many factors to consider when sizing-up and selecting a method and location for fire attack of an attached garage. You must always consider the amount of fire, apparent fire spread and potential for fire spread, and the location of interior entrances into the garage, just to name a few.

In selecting your mode of attack, you have several options. Some of them could be:

- Attacking the fire from the unburned portion from the interior of the home
- Attacking the fire directly from the front to achieve knockdown then enter the home and determine extension
- Make entry through a side entry door or window to cut off fire extension
- Some garages may require wall breaching in order to gain access

No matter what attack is appropriate for your situation, always insure that the garage is completely overhauled, the interior is evaluated for extension and the many other potential hazards present are identified and mitigated.



Discussion Questions

1. What method of attack would you choose for the fire pictured on the left?
2. What potential routes of exposure are present?
3. Using approximate sizes, what gpm flow will be needed to knockdown the fire?
4. Where would you place the second and third lines at this fire?
5. Where and what type of ventilation is necessary to control this fire?
6. What hazards can you expect to be present at this incident given the fire location. Name all potential hazards including building features, contents, and other factors.
7. How would your attack change if there were reports of people inside the house?
8. What considerations need to be given in terms of apparatus placement?