

# THE X EXPRESS

Industry Spotlight  
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## Fire Restoration Solutions

### The professional 3-step process for fire damage restoration.



Fire damage can be devastating, but the restoration process is crucial to making a property safe, livable, and free from lingering odours. To restore a building to healthy occupancy, decrease costs and increase owner satisfaction, best practices for the professional remediator include a three step process of cleaning, eliminating odours, and sealing surfaces to restore areas affected by fire.

### Step 1: CLEAN

#### ***Removing Particulates from Incomplete Combustion (PICs).***

**Dry Cleaning:** Start with dry cleaning methods, as they are less likely to spread soot further. Essential tools include:

**Dry Sponges and an Extension Pole:** These tools help remove soot from walls and ceilings efficiently.

**HEPA Vacuum:** A vacuum with a HEPA filter is crucial for capturing fine particulates. Ensure you have extra filters and bags.

**Lambs Wool Duster:** Use this to remove soot tags, which resemble spider webs made of soot.

**Wet Cleaning:** Once the dry particulates are removed, proceed with wet cleaning methods:

**Degreasers and Foaming Sprayers:** These help break down and remove greasy soot without causing drips on vertical surfaces. Make sure to use a measuring cup to ensure consistent cleaning

**Rags and Microfiber Towels:** Use these for thorough wiping and deep cleaning. Rags for heavy removal while the Microfiber is best suited for deep cleaning applications.

**Pump Sprayers:** Ideal for applying cleaning agents on floors and large horizontal areas.

**Odour Control Additives:** Adding botanical or solvent-based odour neutralizers to degreasers helps tackle smells during the cleaning process.

**Air Scrubbing:** As surfaces are cleaned, it's also necessary to clean the air to prevent re-soiling:

**Air Scrubbers:** Look for products that have 99.97% particulate removal down to 0.3 microns in size. These devices, fitted with HEPA and carbon filters, remove airborne particulates and gases, ensuring the air remains clean.

**Pre-stage Filters:** Use these extensively at the start of restoration, especially in smoky conditions.

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## Step 2: ELIMINATE

**Odour elimination is more than just masking smells; it involves chemically altering the odorous compounds.**

**Odor Control Technologies:** Use devices like the [Vaportek Restorator](#) with an [S.O.S. Cartridge](#) for areas up to 20,000 cubic feet, suitable even when the area is occupied.

**Oxidative Gas Generators:** Devices like ozone or hydroxyl generators are effective but must be used according to manufacturer guidelines, especially in occupied spaces.

## Step 3: SEAL

**Sealing surfaces is the final step in ensuring that odors do not return.**

**Smoke Odour Sealants:** Water-based sealants are recommended due to their low VOC content and quick drying times. They're also easy to clean up and do not require harsh chemicals for removal.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Safety is paramount in fire restoration. Always use appropriate PPE, including gloves, respirators, and protective suits, to safeguard against harmful particulates and chemicals. Safety Express carries a full catalogue of Safety & PPE products required for fire clean up.

[SHOP PPE HERE](#)



Fire restoration is a meticulous process that requires the right tools, techniques, and safety measures. By following the Clean-Eliminate-Seal approach, you can effectively restore a fire-damaged area, ensuring it is clean, odour-free, and safe for occupants. Remember, each step is crucial: thorough cleaning removes harmful residues, odour control addresses the invisible threats, and sealing locks out future problems. Always choose high-quality products and adhere to safety guidelines to achieve the best results in fire restoration.

[\*\*For more information contact your local Safety Express\*\*](#)