

## Get wise to Motoring First Aid Kits

A guide on Motor Vehicle First Aid Kits.



### Why do we need first aid in vehicles?

Road accidents are common in the UK with 181,384 injuries reported in 2016. ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/648082/rrcgb2016-02.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/648082/rrcgb2016-02.pdf)).

It is an employer's legal responsibility to ensure all employees have access to a First Aid Kit, appropriate to the level of risk in their workplace, including employees who work away from the office and on the road.

A vehicle first aid kit, designed with associated risks in mind, contains essential equipment to provide early treatment at the roadside.

Ambulances are targeted to reach an emergency in eight minutes, though it can often be longer due to traffic and volume of calls. A casualty with a severe enough injury can bleed out in a much shorter time, without treatment.

A trauma dressing can be used by any bystander to potentially save someone's life.

Kits that meet British Standard 8599-2 (BSi) are designed for professionals and untrained bystanders. Items carried in the kit are designed to be useful and practical for professional first aiders, but they are also simple and intuitive enough to be used by anyone in an emergency situation.



### What's new about the BSi compliant vehicle kits?

While there are many vehicle first aid kits on the market, the British Standard 8599-2 (BSi) compliant first aid kit is the first to be designed by a panel of industry experts who were invited to help the BHTA design the new vehicle first aid kits. The kits have been created to treat the most common roadside injuries.

Examples of products include:

- Trauma dressings – high pressure, high absorbency dressing, designed to stem severe bleeds.
- Burn dressings – included to soothe burns caused by seatbelts, airbag powder and other injuries.
- Resuscitation face shield – included to encourage the delivery of CPR and provide a hygienic barrier.

### Employers and Industry

Employers must provide first aid suitable to risks identified in the workplace. Company vehicles should be considered a workplace. It is for employers to decide if the first aid kit carried by their employees is sufficient for the risks employees are exposed to. A British Standard 8599-2 (BSi) compliant first aid kit is the ideal solution for vehicle first aid.

## Guidance on first aid kit sizes for motor vehicles

Number of passengers	Vehicle examples	Number and size of first aid kits required
1-3	Mopeds, motorcycles, motor tricycles and quadricycles	1 x small
1-8	Cars, taxis, commercial vehicles	1 x medium
1-16	Minibuses, small buses	1 x large
17+	Buses, coaches	2 x large*

\*Multi-level vehicles might require more than two kits

## Contents of BS 8599-2 (BSi) Motor vehicle first aid kits are:

### Small:

- 1 Dressing, Burn 10cm x 10cm
- 1 Dressing, Trauma Medium
- 1 Gloves, Pair
- 1 Guidance Leaflet
- 10 Plasters, Washproof Assorted
- 1 Resuscitation Face Shield
- 1 Shears
- 5 Wipes, Cleansing

### Medium:

- 1 Bandage, Triangular
- 1 Dressing Pad, Adherent 7.5cm x 7.5cm
- 1 Dressing, HSE Medium 12cm x 12cm
- 1 Dressing, Medium Trauma
- 2 Dressings, Burn 10cm x 10cm
- 1 Foil Blanket, Adult
- 2 Gloves, Pair
- 1 Guidance Leaflet
- 10 Plasters, Washproof Assorted
- 1 Resuscitation Face Shield
- 1 Shears
- 10 Wipes, Cleansing

### Large:

- 2 Bandages, Triangular
- 2 Dressing Pads, Adherent
- 1 Dressing, Trauma Large
- 4 Dressings, Burn
- 2 Dressings, HSE Medium 12cm
- 2 Dressings, Trauma Medium
- 3 Foil Blankets, Adult
- 5 Gloves, Pair
- 1 Guidance Leaflet
- 20 Plasters, Washproof Assorted
- 2 Resuscitation Devices
- 1 Shears
- 20 Wipes, Cleansing

## Where do I get one?

Please visit the BHTA Website – go to “Find a Member” and search for “First Aid Medical Equipment” to find a list of reputable manufacturers and suppliers.

## British Standard 8599-2 (BSi)

Copies of the document are available to purchase from the BSI web shop link <https://shop.bsigroup.com/> or by telephone on 0345 086 9001.

[www.bhta.com](http://www.bhta.com)

The BHTA represents almost 500 companies, all of whom commit to the BHTA Code of Practice, the only one in this industry to be approved by The Chartered Trading Standards Institute. BHTA member companies operate to higher standards of customer protection than the law requires.

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