

AS 2675—1983

Australian Standard®

**PORTABLE FIRST AID KITS FOR
USE BY CONSUMERS**

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FIRST AID KIT, GENERAL PURPOSE (Household)]
(NATO Supply Classification: 6545)

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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/49:

Australian Automobile Association
Australian Consumers Association
Australian Red Cross Society
Australian Society of Anaesthetists
Confederation of Australian Industry
Department of Health, N.S.W.
National Safety Council of Australia (N.S.W. Division)
Pharmacy Guild of Australia
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
St John Ambulance Association

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**PORTABLE FIRST AID KITS FOR
USE BY CONSUMERS**

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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on First Aid Kits under the direction of the Consumer Standards Advisory Committee and in response to requests from the St John Ambulance Association and the Consumers Association of Victoria.

The standard specifies the contents, packaging and marking of portable first aid kits normally intended for consumer use; i.e. this standard does not apply to first aid kits and cabinets intended for use in factories and the like, or to special purpose first aid kits. The standard specifies the contents of three sizes of first aid kit and provides a brief description of use or function in respect of each item of contents specified. A number of optional contents is also included.

This standard requires that one of the following publications be included in any of the first aid kits specified:

'First Aid Notes', published by the Australian Red Cross Society.

'A Guide to First Aid', published by the St John Ambulance Association.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

for

PORTABLE FIRST AID KITS FOR USE BY CONSUMERS

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies the contents (see Note), packaging and marking of portable first aid kits intended for providing immediate and effective first aid treatment of common injuries.

NOTE: Clause 5 of this standard specifies contents for three sizes of first aid kit. Although the quantities of contents specified are minimum quantities only, the actual contents specified are absolute.

2 APPLICATION. The first aid kits specified by this standard are applicable to consumer requirements. Although some industrial and commercial first aid requirements may be met by this standard, the standard is generally not applicable to providing for specialized first aid treatment.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENT. The following standard is referred to in this standard:

AS 1319 Rules for the Design and Use of Safety Signs for the Occupational Environment.

AS 2835.1 Absorbent Woven Cause
Part 1—Cotton

AS 2835.2 Absorbent Woven Gauze
Part 2—Cotton-viscose Blends.

4 CLASSIFICATION. First aid kits are classified according to size as follows:

4.1 Size A—a first aid kit having limited contents and intended for use as a hiker's or personal kit.

4.2 Size B—a first aid kit having contents less limited than a size A kit and intended for general purpose use.

4.3 Size C—a first aid kit having contents less limited than a size A or a size B kit and intended for household use.

5 FIRST AID KIT CONTENTS.

5.1 Size A kit. Subject to the other requirements of this standard, a Size A first aid kit shall contain not more and not less than each item of contents shown in Table 1, in a quantity not less than the corresponding quantity shown in Column A of Table 1. The kit may also include one or more of the items of contents shown in Table 2, in quantities not less than the corresponding quantities shown in Column A of Table 2.

5.2 Size B kit. Subject to the other requirements of this standard, a Size B first aid kit shall contain not more and not less than each item of contents shown in Table 1, in a quantity not less than the corresponding quantity shown in Column B of Table 1. The kit may also include one or more of the items of contents shown in Table 2, in quantities not less than the corresponding quantities shown in Column B of Table 2.

5.3 Size C kit. Subject to the other requirements of this standard, a Size C first aid kit shall contain not more and not less than each item of contents shown in Table 1, in a quantity not less than the corresponding quantity shown in Column C of Table 1. The kit may also include one or more of the items of contents

shown in Table 2, in quantities not less than the corresponding quantities shown in Column C of Table 2.

6 INFORMATION. In addition to the contents specified in Clause 5, each first aid kit shall contain the following:

- (a) A list of contents providing as a minimum, all the information set out in Tables 1 and 2 (as appropriate to the actual contents of the kit), and a clearly printed instruction to immediately replace expended contents.
- (b) A copy of either
 - (i) 'First Aid Notes', published by the Australian Red Cross Society; or
 - (ii) 'A Guide to First Aid', published by the St John Ambulance Association.

7 QUALITY. Bandages, dressings, strappings, and swabs shall comply with the appropriate monograph in the British Pharmacopoeia as amended from time to time or with the appropriate Australian standard. In addition, gauze products contained in the pack shall be made of complying with AS 2835.1 or AS 2835.2, as appropriate.

NOTES:

1. Bandages, dressings, strappings, and swabs are subject to approval under the provisions of the Commonwealth Department of Health Import Controls Applied to Bandages, Dressings and Allied Products.
2. All adhesives used in adhesive dressings and strappings should be hypoallergenic.

8 LABELLING. Each item of first aid kit contents excluding safety pins, scissors, splinter forceps, pencils and note pads, shall be clearly labelled with information fully identifying the item. To facilitate correct item replacement, each expendable item of contents shall be clearly labelled with the name of the manufacturer or distributor of the item and the batch code for the item.

9 PACKAGING. Each first aid kit shall be packaged in a durable container such that rapid access to each item of contents is made possible. Care shall be taken to ensure that the material from which the container is fabricated is suitable for the environment for which the kit is intended with respect to the possible effect of ambient temperature and humidity on the deterioration of any of the contents.

10 MARKING. Each first aid kit shall be marked clearly and indelibly on the outside of its package with the first aid symbol specified in AS 1319. In addition, the outside of the package shall be marked, clearly and indelibly in at least one place, with the words 'FIRST AID KIT' in lettering not less than 20 mm in height.

NOTE: Manufacturers who place the number of this Australian standard on first aid kits, on packaging or on literature related thereto, should ensure that the kits are manufactured to comply with the standard.

TABLE 1
FIRST AID KIT CONTENTS

| Quantity | | | Item | Use of Function |
|----------|----|----|---|--|
| A | B | C | | |
| 3 | 9 | 18 | Sterile cotton gauze swabs in packs of no more than 3 or 5, as appropriate, each 75 mm × 75 mm in size—each pack to be clearly marked with the instruction to discard and replace the pack after initial opening and use. | For cleaning wounds and surrounding areas, and for placing over non-adhesive dressings applied to burns. |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | Individual disposable hand towels, or tissues in a poeketsize pack. | For general cleaning other than wounds. |
| 5 | 24 | 24 | Individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressing strips, assorted widths. | For use as a dressing on clean dry skin for small cuts, abrasions and blisters. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Roll of adhesive strapping, not less than 25 mm in width and not less than 2.5 m in length. | To retain dressings in position. |
| 2 | 2 | 5 | Individually packed sterile non-adhesive dry dressings, each 100 mm × 100 mm in size. | For use wherever adhesion is undesirable, i.e. on burns, abrasions, weeping wounds, cuts and lacerations. To be held in place preferably by bandaging. |
| 0 | 1 | 3 | Sterile wound dressing comprising a sterile cotton wool and gauze pad attached to a gauze roll bandage, complying with BPC (1973) Standard Dressing No 13. | To control bleeding and protect wounds. The pad is also suitable as an eye pad. |
| 1 | 1 | 3 | Sterile wound dressing comprising a sterile cotton wool and gauze pad attached to a gauze roll bandage, complying with BPC (1973) Standard Dressing No 14. | To control bleeding and protect wounds. The pad is also suitable as an eye pad. |
| 0 | 1 | 3 | Sterile wound dressing comprising a sterile cotton wool and gauze pad attached to a gauze roll bandage, complying with BPC (1973) Standard Dressing No 15. | To control bleeding and protect wounds. The pad is also suitable as an eye pad. |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | Roll of stretch bandage, 50 mm in width and not less than 1.5 m in unstretched length, stretchable to not less than twice the unstretched length. | To retain dressings in position and to support injured limbs. For use in the treatment of venomous bites |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | Roll of stretch bandage, 75 mm in width and not less than 1.5 m in unstretched length, stretchable to not less than twice the unstretched length. | To retain dressings in position and to support injured limbs. For use in the treatment of venomous bites. |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | Roll of stretch bandage, 100 mm in width and not less than 1.5 m in unstretched length, stretchable to not less than twice the unstretched length. | To retain dressings in position and to support injured limbs. For use in the treatment of venomous bites. |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | Triangular calico bandage, BP quality or disposable, each edge not less than 900 mm in length and unselfvedged. | For use as a sling (opened out) to support upper limb, and as a broad bandage (folded lengthwise) to retain large dressings or splints in position. |
| 5 | 5 | 10 | Safety pins, approximately 40 mm in length. | As required. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Pair of rust-resistant scissors with at least one blunt point, approximately 100 mm in length. | To cut dressings, bandages, etc, and to cut away clothing. Use blunt point next to skin. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Pair of rust-resistant splinter forceps with accurately aligned tips, Bitted with a protective guard for preventing tip damage. | For removing splinters, etc. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Pencil and note pad. | For recording times, details and for passing messages. |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | Disposable aluminium foil blanket, not less than 1.3 m × 2 m in size. | For protecting a casualty from the effects of the elements. |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | Individual plastics bags, each approximately 150 mm × 200 mm in size. | For carrying water, making ice packs, disposing of dirty dressings, or for carrying severed parts. |

TABLE 2
OPTIONAL INCLUSIONS

| Quantity | | | Item | Use of Function |
|----------|---|----|---|---|
| A | B | C | | |
| 3 | 6 | 12 | Isopropyl alcohol swabs, individually foil wrapped—each to be clearly marked with the instruction to discard and replace after use. | For cleaning areas surrounding wounds. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Sterile combine dressing, not less than 90 mm × 200 mm in size. | To control heavy bleeding. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Plastics squeeze bottle containing approximately 100 mL of sterile, normal saline solution—to be clearly labelled with the following information: (a) Identification. (b) Expiry date; i.e. 'Use by'. (c) Use (as given opposite). (d) Instruction to discard and replace after use. | For the irrigation of eyes and for cleaning wounds and burns. |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Sachet containing at least 10 mL of a product of proven effectiveness in the relief of irritation caused by stings or bites, such as an aqueous solution of aluminium sulphate (quantity dependent upon commercial availability)—to be clearly labelled with the following information: (a) Identification. (b) Use (as given opposite). (c) Instruction to discard and replace after use. | For the relief of irritation caused by stings or bites. |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | Disposable aluminium foil blanket, not less than 1.3 m × 2 m in size. | For protecting a casualty from the effects of the elements. |

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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AMENDMENT No 1
to
AS 2675—1983
PORTABLE FIRST AID KITS FOR USE BY CONSUMERS

REVISED TEXT

SUMMARY: This amendment applies to Clause 3, Clause 7, and Table 1.

Published on 7 March 1988.

AMDT
No 1
MAR.
1988

Page 3. Clause 3.

Add the following referenced documents:

- AS 2835.1 Absorbent Woven Gauze
Part 1—Cotton.
AS 2835.2 Absorbent Woven Gauze
Part 2—Cotton-viscose Blends.

AMDT
No 1
MAR.
1988

Page 3. Clause 7.

Delete existing Clause 7 and *substitute*:

7 QUALITY. Bandages, dressings, strappings, and swabs shall comply with the appropriate monograph in the British Pharmacopoeia as amended from time to time or with the appropriate Australian Standard. In addition, gauze products contained in the pack shall be made of gauze complying with AS 2835.1 or AS 2835.2, as appropriate.

NOTES:

1. Bandages, dressings, strappings, and swabs are subject to approval under the provisions of the Commonwealth Department of Health Import Controls Applied to Bandages, Dressings and Allied Products.
2. All adhesives used in adhesive dressings and strappings should be hypoallergenic.

AMDT
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1988

Page 4. Table 1.

Fourth column, second and third lines; *delete* 'and having a sulphated ash content of not greater than 0.25 percent'.

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1988

Page 4. Table 1.

Fifth column; sixth, seventh and eighth items; *delete* the following (second) sentence:

'If bleeding is not controlled by the original wound dressing, reinforce with additional sterile wound dressings without disturbing or moving the original wound dressing.'