



# NEW BS-8599 British Standard Workplace First Aid Kits



## When will the new standard come into force?

BS8599 is effective from 30th June 2011, with a transitional introduction period until 31st December 2011.

## The old standard

This standard replaces the BHTA-HSE kits 10, 20 and 50, that are currently universally used in the UK, and are based on the HSE guidelines. The Current BHTA standard was published in 1997, and is long overdue a review. The BHTA standard will be withdrawn from 31st December 2011.

## What the law says

The Health and Safety (First Aid) regulations 1981 states:-

*"An employer shall provide or ensure that there are provided such equipment and facilities as are adequate and appropriate in the circumstances for enabling first aid to be rendered to his employees if the are injured or become ill at work"*

...The new BSi first aid kits are now the only safe and clear way for an employer to meet their obligations...

## The HSE position

The Health and Safety Executive have been closely involved in the creation of this standard, being members of the BSi standards committee. The current guidelines contained in document L74 from the HSE are met and exceeded by the new BSi standard.

## Why did we need a new standard?

Despite many EU states having a national standard for workplace first aid kits, until now, the UK did not. The BHTA guidelines, established in 1997 were in need of revision because training protocols have changed, there are heightened concerns with infection control, and new technology is now available at affordable prices.

There were only one pair of gloves in a 10 person kit - yet 33 dressings.  
There were 4 triangular bandages - even though the training protocols no longer indicate their use for immobilisation of lower limb fractures.  
Burns gel dressings are extensively used in first aid - now very available and affordable.

The new kits have good quantities of plasters and wipes, a common criticism of the old ones.

## The New Contents:

- GLOVES** More quantity reflecting the need, and Nitrile type in line with NHS and St. John Ambulance guidelines.
- PLASTERS** Sensible quantities, reflecting consumer demand.
- WIPES** Increased quantities, reflecting consumer demand.  
New specification is sterile and now must meet the European CE marking rules.
- MEDIUM AND LARGE DRESSINGS**  
Fewer quantities, reflecting consumer demand.
- TRIANGULAR BANDAGES**  
Quantities are reduced reflecting the change in training first aid protocol, where immobilisation of lower limbs using triangular bandages is no longer indicated.
- FINGER DRESSINGS**  
A smaller finger dressing is introduced specifically for finger injuries that are too large for first aid plasters, dressing complete with an easy-fix adhesive tab.
- BURNS GEL DRESSING**  
Every employer with as much as a kettle, must have a risk from burns.  
A modern burns gel dressing is added to meet this risk, together with a conforming bandage to attach and retain it.
- ADHESIVE TAPE**  
Many first aiders prefer not to use safety pins, where additional injury could potentially be caused, adhesive tape is an easy and inexpensive way to secure dressings and bandages. Safety pins are retained, allowing users a choice of application.
- SHEARS** Clothing around wound sites needs to be removed to allow first aid treatment. Shears, capable of cutting fabric and leather enable this removal.
- FOIL EMERGENCY BLANKET**  
Clinical shock presents one of the most serious life threatening risks to a casualty, treatment includes keeping the casualty warm. The introduction of the foil survival blanket enables this.
- MOUTH TO MOUTH RESUSCITATION DEVICE**  
The introduction of a mouth to mouth resuscitation device, incorporating a one way valve, protects the first aider from infection from body fluid pathogens.
- EYE WASH** Incorporated into the travel kit since fixed eye wash stations are unlikely to be available. The environment of a travelling worker is unpredictable and could include a risk to eyes.
- FIRST AID GUIDANCE LEAFLET**  
Conforming to the latest HSE guidance.

## What kits are available?

There are four sizes of first aid kits, workplace small, medium, large and a travel kit.

## What size is required?

Employers are required to make a risk assessment to decide what the hazard levels are and how many employees are involved in the area to be covered. There is a useful guide provided to help match this risk assessment to an appropriate size kit.

CATEGORY OF HAZARD	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	NUMBER AND SIZE OF FIRST AID KITS
LOW HAZARD e.g. shops, offices, libraries etc.	Less than 25	Small size kit
	25 – 100	Medium size kit
	more than 100	1 Large kit per 100 employees
HIGH HAZARD e.g. light engineering and assembly work, food processing, warehousing, extensive work with dangerous machinery or sharp instruments, construction, chemical manufacture etc.	Less than 5	Small size kit
	5 – 25	Medium size kit
	more than 25	1 large kit per 25 employees



# BS-8599 British Standard First Aid Kits



330  
BSi Small Kit



343  
BSi Medium Kit



348  
BSi Large Kit



366  
BSi Small Kit



380  
BSi Medium Kit



384  
BSi Large Kit

## BSI CATERING KITS



427  
BSi Small Kit



428  
BSi Medium Kit



429  
BSi Large Kit



672  
BSi Small Kit



673  
BSi Medium Kit



674  
BSi Large Kit

## BSI TRAVEL KITS



675  
BSi Travel Kit



678  
BSi Travel Kit



684  
BSi Travel Kit



REF	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSIONS	UNIT	PACK SIZE (IN UNITS)	UNIT PRICE
<b>BSI FIRST AID KITS - WORKPLACE</b>						
330	BSi Small Workplace Kit	in Standard Green Aura Box	27.5cmH x 29cmW x 10cmD	1	10	
343	BSi Medium Workplace Kit	in Standard Green Aura Box	27.5cmH x 29cmW x 10cmD	1	10	
348	BSi Large Workplace Kit	in Super Green Aura Box	33cmH x 35cmW x 9.5cmD	1	5	
366	BSi Small Workplace Kit	in Green Durham Box	18cmH x 27cmW x 9cmD	1	10	
380	BSi Medium Workplace Kit	in Green Oxford Box	22.5cmH x 27.5cmW x 9cmD	1	10	
384	BSi Large Workplace Kit	in Green Cambridge Box	25.5cmH x 34.5cmW x 10cmD	1	5	
<b>BSI FIRST AID KITS - CATERING</b>						
427	BSi Small Catering Kit	in Standard Blue Aura Box	27.5cmH x 29cmW x 10cmD	1	10	
428	BSi Medium Catering Kit	in Standard Blue Aura Box	27.5cmH x 29cmW x 10cmD	1	10	
429	BSi Large Catering Kit	in Super Blue Aura Box	33cmH x 35cmW x 9.5cmD	1	5	
672	BSi Small Catering Kit	in Green Durham Box	18cmH x 27cmW x 9cmD	1	10	
673	BSi Medium Catering Kit	in Green Oxford Box	22.5cmH x 27.5cmW x 9cmD	1	10	
674	BSi Large Catering Kit	in Green Cambridge Box	25.5cmH x 34.5cmW x 10cmD	1	5	
<b>BSI FIRST AID KITS - TRAVEL</b>						
675	BSi Travel Kit	in Aston Box	20cmH x 26cmW x 6cmD	1	5	
678	BSi Travel Kit	in Astbury Box	17cmH x 26cmW x 6cmD	1	5	
684	BSi Travel Kit	in Stockholm Bag	19cmH x 12cmW x 8cmD	1	5	
<b>REFILL KITS</b>						
657	BSi Workplace Small	Refill	-	1	10	
660	BSi Workplace Medium	Refill	-	1	10	
687	BSi Workplace Large	Refill	-	1	5	
732	BSi Catering Small	Refill	-	1	10	
733	BSi Catering Medium	Refill	-	1	10	
734	BSi Catering Large	Refill	-	1	5	
723	BSi Travel	Refill	-	1	10	
<b>BRACKETS</b>						
982	Cradle Bracket	for Standard Aura Box	-	1	10	
989	Cradle Bracket	for Super Aura Box	-	1	10	

Brackets are included with all BSi kits (except 675). An optional cradle bracket is available for all Aura Kits.

BSI CONTENTS	FIRST AID KIT SIZES			
	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	TRAVEL
BurnSoothe/Reliburn Burn Relief Dressing 10cm x 10cm	1	2	2	1
Dependaplast Washproof Assorted Plasters	40	60	100	10
Eye Pad Dressing with Bandage Sterile	2	3	4	-
Foil Blanket Adult Size	1	2	3	1
Large HSE Dressing 18cm x 18cm Sterile Unboxed	1	2	2	1
Medium HSE Dressing 12cm x 12cm Sterile Unboxed	4	6	8	1
Nitrile Gloves Pair	6	9	12	1
Rebreath Mouth to mouth Resuscitation Device with Valve	1	1	2	1
Reliance Finger Dressing with Adhesive Fixing 3.5cm	2	3	4	-
Reliance First Aid Guidance Leaflet	1	1	1	1
Reliform Conforming Bandage 7.5cm x 4m	1	2	2	1
Relitape Microporous Tape 2.5cm x 10m	1	1	1	1
Reliwipe Moist Cleansing Wipes	20	30	40	4
Safety Pins Assorted	6	12	24	2
Single Use Triangular Bandage 90cm x 127cm	2	3	4	1
Universal Shears Small 6"	1	1	1	1
Eye Wash 250ml	-	-	-	1