

BS 8599-2:2014



BSI Standards Publication

## First aid kits

Part 2: Specification for the contents  
of motor vehicle first aid kits

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## Contents

Foreword *ii*

<b>1</b>	Scope	<i>1</i>
<b>2</b>	Normative references	<i>1</i>
<b>3</b>	Terms and definitions	<i>1</i>
<b>4</b>	Contents of a motor vehicle first aid kit	<i>2</i>
<b>5</b>	Container	<i>2</i>
<b>6</b>	Marking	<i>3</i>

### Annexes

Annex A (informative)	Guidance on first aid kit sizes for motor vehicles	<i>5</i>
Annex B (informative)	Vehicle categories	<i>6</i>

Bibliography *7*

### List of tables

Table 1	– Contents of motor vehicle first aid kit	<i>4</i>
Table A.1	– Guidance on first aid kit sizes for motor vehicles	<i>5</i>
Table B.1	– Vehicle categories	<i>6</i>

### Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i to ii, pages 1 to 8, an inside back cover and a back cover.

## Foreword

### Publishing information

This part of BS 8599 is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 January 2014. It was prepared by Technical Committee CH/240, *First aid kits*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

### Relationship with other publications

This part of BS 8599 is part of a series that contains the following parts:

- *Part 1: Specification for the contents of workplace first aid kits*
- *Part 2: Specification for the contents of motor vehicle first aid kits*

### Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is "shall".

*Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.*

Requirements in this standard are drafted in accordance with *Rules for the structure and drafting of UK standards*, subclause J.1.1, which states, "Requirements should be expressed using wording such as: 'When tested as described in Annex A, the product shall ...'". This means that only those products that are capable of passing the specified test will be deemed to conform to this standard.

### Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

## 1 Scope

This part of BS 8599 specifies requirements for the compilation of first aid components in three sizes of first aid kits (small, medium and large) for use in motor vehicles.

Requirements are also given for the container holding the components.

*NOTE 1 Motor vehicle first aid kits can be complemented by other items that have been identified during a risk assessment. Where there are unusual hazards that are specific to a particular use of a vehicle, such as vehicles carrying dangerous chemicals (e.g. hydrofluoric acid), first aid kits might need to be supplemented with additional appropriate components.*

*NOTE 2 Annex A gives recommendations on the number and size of the first aid kits necessary for different vehicle types and numbers of passengers.*

*NOTE 3 Annex B gives details of vehicle categories as defined by the European Commission [1].*

*NOTE 4 A workplace risk assessment might determine that the vehicle motor kit is suitable for a lone worker.*

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 7505:1995, *Specification for the elastic properties of flat, non-adhesive, extensible fabric bandages*

BS EN 455-1, *Medical gloves for single use – Part 1: Requirements and testing for freedom from holes*

BS EN 455-2, *Medical gloves for single use – Part 2: Requirements and testing for physical properties*

BS EN ISO 7010:2012, *Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Registered safety signs*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of BS 8599, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1 emergency dressing

absorbent wound contact pad attached to a bandage for use on lacerations and cuts to skin

[SOURCE: BS 8599-1:2011, 3.1]

### 3.2 first aid kit container

vessel used to hold first aid components, facilitating easy transportation and retrieval

*NOTE Typically this can be a box, case or bag.*

[SOURCE: BS 8599-1:2011, 3.2]

### 3.3 motorcycle

powered two or three wheeled motor vehicle whose weight does not exceed 400 kg

### 3.4 motor vehicle

power-driven road vehicle which has four or more wheels, which is not rail borne, and which is normally used for:

- carrying persons and/or goods;
- towing vehicles used for the carriage of persons and/or goods

*NOTE* According to the DVLA Driving Licence Categories [2], this includes:

- cars – vehicles up to 3,500 kg Maximum Authorised Mass with up to 8 passenger seats;
- medium sized vehicles – weighing between 3,500 kg and 7,500 kg;
- large vehicles – over 3,500 kg;
- minibuses – no more than 16 seats, maximum length 8 m;
- buses – more than 8 passenger seats.

### 3.5 motor vehicle first aid kit

collection of first aid components held in a container and stored in a motor vehicle for use in the provision of first aid

### 3.6 passenger carrying vehicle (PCV)

road vehicle designed to carry passengers

### 3.7 quadricycle

small four-wheeled motorised vehicle defined by limitations in terms of weight, power and speed

*NOTE* See European Commission vehicle categories [1] for more details.

### 3.8 trauma dressing

wound contact pressure dressing attached to a compression bandage with an integrated fixation device

*NOTE* A trauma dressing is designed to stop severe bleeding.

## 4 Contents of a motor vehicle first aid kit

The contents of a small, medium or large motor vehicle first aid kit shall be in accordance with Table 1.

## 5 Container

The first aid kit container shall be able to fit all of the relevant components inside and close securely. The container shall be clean and provide protection for the contents in a motor vehicle.

*NOTE* When selecting an appropriate container, temperature, maintenance, material durability and robustness should be taken into account.

## 6 Marking

The first aid kit container shall be legibly and durably marked with the following information:

- a) number and date of this British Standard (i.e. BS 8599-2:2014); <sup>1)</sup>
- b) symbol of a white cross conforming to BS EN ISO 7010:2012, type E003;
- c) the words "FIRST AID" in white text.

*NOTE Depending on the market, the container should also have the words "FIRST AID" marked in the local language, e.g. in Welsh or Gaelic.*

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<sup>1)</sup> Marking BS 8599-2:2014 on or in relation to a product represents a manufacturer's declaration of conformity, i.e. a claim by or on behalf of the manufacturer that the product meets the requirements of the standard. The accuracy of the claim is solely the claimant's responsibility. Such a declaration is not to be confused with third-party certification of conformity.

Table 1 Contents of motor vehicle first aid kit

Component	Description	Quantity		
		Small	Medium	Large
First aid guidance leaflet	Providing brief first aid guidelines.	1	1	1
Contents list	Providing a list of first aid components included in the kit, bearing "BS 8599-2:2014".	1	1	1
Trauma dressing – large	A pressure bandage measuring a min. of 15 cm x 400 cm (stretched length) and conforming to BS 7505:1995 type 3B with a wound pressure pad not less than 15 cm x 18 cm of at least 500 gsm, with a low adherent wound contact surface.	—	—	1
Trauma dressing – medium	A pressure bandage measuring a min. of 10 cm x 400 cm (stretched length) and conforming to BS 7505:1995 type 3B with a wound pressure pad not less than 10 cm x 18 cm of at least 500 gsm, with a low adherent wound contact surface.	1	1	2
Emergency first aid dressing	A conforming bandage measuring a min. 5 cm x 200 cm (stretched length) with an absorbent pad, not less than 12 cm x 12 cm.	—	1	2
Triangular bandage	Min. of 20 gsm non-woven material or cotton; size not less than 90 cm x 90 cm x 127 cm.	—	1	2
Cleansing wipes	Individually wrapped and sterile saline; min. size 8 cm <sup>2</sup> .	5	10	20
Sterile adhesive dressings	Water resistant, sterile, island dressing design. Individually wrapped with a min. surface area of 7.5 cm <sup>2</sup> , dressing pad not less than 20% of the surface area.	5	10	20
Nitrile disposable gloves (pair)	Conforming to BS EN 455-1 and BS EN 455-2, large size (8–9).	1	2	5
Resuscitation face shield <sup>A)</sup>	Including a one-way valve.	1	1	2
Foil blanket <sup>B)</sup>	Size not less than 210 cm x 130 cm.	—	1	3
Adherent dressing	Non-woven material, sterile, island dressing design. Min. size 7.5 cm x 7.5 cm. Dressing pad not less than 20% of surface area.	—	1	2
Burn dressing <sup>C)</sup>	Water-based, gel-soaked dressing. Sterile with a minimum surface area of 100 cm <sup>2</sup> .	1	2	4
Heavy duty shears	Suitable for cutting clothing including leather and seat belts. Min. size 18 cm.	1	1	1

<sup>A)</sup> A shield that can be used to protect a first aider from infection during mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

<sup>B)</sup> Additional blankets might be required as a result of a risk assessment (see Annex A).

<sup>C)</sup> A burn dressing cools the burn injury without any pre-cooling or any other medium. The burn dressing does not dry out within one hour of application.



**Annex A**  
**(informative)**

## Guidance on first aid kit sizes for motor vehicles

The size of the first aid kits required for motor vehicles is determined by the category of hazard and by the number of potential passengers (see Table A.1).

Where there are special circumstances, such as remoteness from emergency medical services or unusual hazards specific to a particular undertaking, there might be a need to provide a greater number of first aid kits than outlined in Table A.1 and/or to supplement first aid provision with additional appropriate components, e.g. additional foil blankets. In these instances, a risk assessment needs to be carried out to ascertain the requirements.

Table A.1 Guidance on first aid kit sizes for motor vehicles

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

<sup>A)</sup> Multi-level vehicles might require more than two kits.

**Annex B**  
**(informative)** **Vehicle categories**

Table B.1 shows the vehicle categories as defined by the European Commission.

Table B.1 **Vehicle categories**

Category	Vehicles
L	Mopeds, motorcycles, motor tricycles and quadricycles
M	Motor vehicles having at least four wheels and for the carriage of passengers
N	Power-driven vehicles having at least four wheels and for the carriage of goods
O	Trailers (including semitrailers)

*NOTE* See European Commission vehicle categories [1] for more details.

The size of the first aid kits required for motor vehicles is determined by the category of hazard and by the number of potential passengers (see Table A.1 for guidance).

## Bibliography

### Standards publications

For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 8599-1:2011, *Workplace first aid kits – Part 1: Specification for the contents of workplace first aid kits*

### Other publications

- [1] EUROPEAN COMMISSION. *Vehicle categories*. Available from <[http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road\\_safety/topics/vehicles/vehicle\\_categories/index\\_EN.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/topics/vehicles/vehicle_categories/index_EN.htm)> [last viewed 7 January 2014].
- [2] DRIVER AND VEHICLE LICENSING AGENCY. *Driving licence categories*. Available from <[www.gov.uk/driving-licence-categories](http://www.gov.uk/driving-licence-categories)> [last viewed 7 January 2014].





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