



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Equipment and Support
Secretariat
#2043 Maple 0a
Ministry of Defence
Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Email: DES SEC-PolSec LE-JSC-WPNS@mod.uk

Our Reference:
FOI2020/11607
Date:
11 December 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing about your email of 18 October 2020, requesting the following information:

- A) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4A Patrol Collar?**
- B) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4A Body Armour in Civilian Blue?**
- C) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Tier 3 Pelvic Protection (Trousers)?**
- D) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4/4A Non-Ballistic Training Plates?**
- E) Can you confirm if all accessories for the Osprey MK4/4A came with Fitting and Assembly Instructions, such as the various Pouches in MTP - Ops Panel, Commanders Admin Pouch etc?**
- F) If so, could a copy be provided, in above format**

Your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

On 13 November 2020 I wrote to advise you that a search of Ministry of Defence (MOD) records had found that information falling within the scope of your request is held. However, as some of it falls within the scope of qualified exemptions Section 26 (Defence) and Section 38 (Health and Safety) of the FOI Act, it was necessary to undertake a Public Interest Test to determine whether the balance for withholding the information outweighs that for disclosure.

Section 26(1)(a) and (b) (Defence) covers information which if disclosed would or would likely to prejudice: the defence of the British Islands or any colony; plans for future military capabilities; or the capability, effectiveness or security of the Armed Forces. Section 38(1)(a) and (b) (Health and Safety) covers information which if disclosed would or would likely: endanger the physical or mental health of any individual; or endanger the safety of any individual.

The Public Interest concluded that some information can be released, but in redacted form, whilst other information is already in the public domain and can be accessed by other means. For ease, I am responding by answering each of the questions you raised in turn.

a) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4A Patrol Collar? Specific fitting instructions for patrol collars do not exist. However, instructions on fitting collars in general have previously been published in response to an earlier FOI request; for a copy of the Osprey MK4A Body Armour Instruction Manual. Section 21(1) of the FOI Act provides that information is exempt if it is reasonably available by other means. The earlier FOI request can be accessed at the Government publications website, at the following.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-released-by-mod-week-commencing-15-june-2020>

b) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4A Body Armour in Civilian Blue? A copy of this document is attached. However, the Public Interest concluded that it was necessary to withhold some information about some parts of the body armour and its placement within the garment.

Arguments in favour of release considered: the public interest in enhancing the accountability of government; and that releasing would demonstrate the Government's commitment to openness and transparency. The FOI Act also contains a presumption for release. However, Osprey Body Armour remains in-service with the UK Armed forces; and providing details of some of its components and their placement within the garments would allow adversaries to estimate the protection offered to Armed Forces personnel and identify any weaknesses that could be exploited. This would likely also adversely impact the health and welfare of the troops.

On balance, it was determined that the information should be withheld. The level of prejudice against release of this exempted information has been set at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

c) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Tier 3 Pelvic Protection (Trousers)? Again, a copy of this document is attached. However, it has also been redacted as it was subject to the same Public Interest and conclusions as the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4A Body Armour in Civilian Blue. In addition, the face of a person appearing in one photograph has been redacted as it is considered personal information as defined in Section 40 (Personal Information) of the FOI Act. As this is an absolute exemption, it was not necessary to undertake a Public Interest Test.

d) Can you provide me with a Hard Copy Pamphlet/or PDF File of the Fitting and Assembly Instructions for the Osprey MK4/4A Non-Ballistic Training Plates? No information is held, as there are no non-ballistic training plates for the Osprey Mk 4/4A system.

e and f) Can you confirm if all accessories for the Osprey MK4/4A came with Fitting and Assembly Instructions, such as the various Pouches in MTP - Ops Panel, Commanders Admin Pouch etc? Details of how to fit pouches using the Mollé system are contained within the Osprey MK4A Body Armour Instruction Manual that was previously published. Again, as with the response to question a), above, Section 21(1) of the FOI Act provides that information is exempt if it is reasonably available by other means. This information is available at the same link as above.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD

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internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

DE&S Secretariat

NATO Stock Numbers (NSNs)

8470-99-983-9930	Tier 3 pelvic protection system mesh stowage bag - One Size
8470-99-668-5835	Tier 3 pelvic protection system - size extra small (overarching NSN)
8470-99-668-5830	Tier 3 pelvic protection system outer cover - size extra small
8470-99-177-3581	Tier 3 pelvic protection system side armour protection panel - size extra small (2 per system)
8470-99-177-3582	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel left - size extra small
8470-99-177-3583	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel right - size extra small
8470-99-177-3584	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel left - size extra small
8470-99-177-3585	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel right - size extra small
8470-99-177-3586	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel left - size extra small
8470-99-177-3587	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel right - size extra small
8470-99-177-3588	Tier 3 pelvic protection system waist belt - size extra small
8470-99-668-5836	Tier 3 pelvic protection system - size small (overarching NSN)
8470-99-668-5831	Tier 3 pelvic protection system outer cover - size small
8470-99-983-9902	Tier 3 pelvic protection system side armour protection panel - size small (2 per system)
8470-99-983-9903	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel left - size small
8470-99-983-9904	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel right - size small
8470-99-983-9905	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel left - size small
8470-99-983-9906	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel right - size small
8470-99-983-9907	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel left - size small
8470-99-983-9908	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel right - size small
8470-99-983-9909	Tier 3 pelvic protection system waist belt - size small
8470-99-668-5837	Tier 3 pelvic protection system - size medium (overarching NSN)
8470-99-668-5832	Tier 3 pelvic protection system outer cover - size medium
8470-99-983-9912	Tier 3 pelvic protection system side armour protection panel - size medium (2 per system)
8470-99-983-9913	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel left - size medium

8470-99-983-9914	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel right - size medium
8470-99-983-9915	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel left - size medium
8470-99-983-9916	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel right - size medium
8470-99-983-9917	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel left - size medium
8470-99-983-9918	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel right - size medium
8470-99-983-9919	Tier 3 pelvic protection system waist belt - size medium
8470-99-668-5838	Tier 3 pelvic protection system - size large (overarching NSN)
8470-99-668-5833	Tier 3 pelvic protection system outer cover - size large
8470-99-983-9922	Tier 3 pelvic protection system side armour protection panel - size large (2 per system)
8470-99-983-9923	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel left - size large
8470-99-983-9924	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel right - size large
8470-99-983-9925	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel - size large
8470-99-983-9926	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel right - size large
8470-99-983-9927	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel left - size large
8470-99-983-9928	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel right - size large
8470-99-983-9929	Tier 3 pelvic protection system waist belt - size large
8470-99-668-5839	Tier 3 pelvic protection system - size extra large (overarching NSN)
8470-99-668-5834	Tier 3 pelvic protection system outer cover - size extra large
8470-99-177-3591	Tier 3 pelvic protection system side armour protection panel - size extra large (2 per system)
8470-99-177-3592	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel left - size extra large
8470-99-177-3593	Tier 3 pelvic protection system front armour panel right - size extra large
8470-99-177-3594	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel left - size extra large
8470-99-177-3595	Tier 3 pelvic protection system inner thigh armour panel right - size extra large
8470-99-177-3596	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel left - size extra large
8470-99-177-3597	Tier 3 pelvic protection system rear armour panel right - size extra large
8470-99-177-3598	Tier 3 pelvic protection system waist belt - size extra large

TIER 3 PELVIC PROTECTION MK 2

User care, fitting and assembly instructions



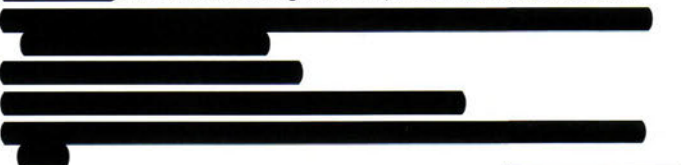
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T3 Pelvic Protection Component parts



Fitting Armour Panels

The system has a total of eight armour panels. These must all be fitted.



- Fasten the zips on each leg and complete the fitting by fastening the zips on the waistband.

Fitting Tier 3 Pelvic protection to individuals

BTH003659



DE&S Land Equipment Personal Combat Equipment
Individual Capability Group, Elm 3C, MOD Abbey Wood Bristol BS34 8JH

Tier 3 System. For this configuration, insert the service belt through the loops provided on the Tier 3 waistband and attach as defined in the Tier 2 fitting guide.

Cleaning

COVER

The cover must be washed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Soft Armour Maintenance

It is essential that the following regular maintenance is conducted:

- The soft armour is to be inspected annually by the QM department.
- The soft armour should be inspected regularly by the user for signs of damage to armour and protective covers.
- Soft armour should also be inspected if it has had any physical contact with objects likely to cause damage. If damage is observed, soft armour panels must be replaced.
- Soft armour panels must be removed prior to laundering.

Osprey Mk 4A Civilian Body Armour



LAND EQUIPMENT



USER CARE AND
ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS



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Osprey Mk 4A Civilian Body Armour



Blanking Panels,
Pair - x1



Body Armour Cover
- Vest Front- x1



Brassards, Pair
Left & Right with
elasticated
fittings - x1



Body Armour Cover
- Vest Back- x1



Shoulder Guards, Pair
Left & Right with
elasticated fittings - x1

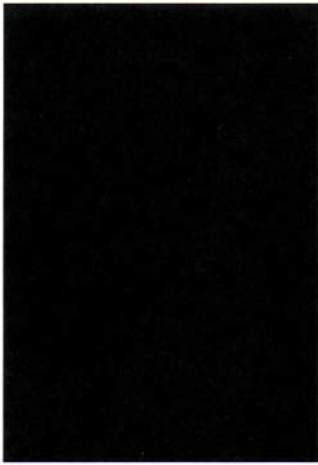


OPS Panel & T Bar fittings - x1



Waistbands Set - x1

Accessories & Parts Listing



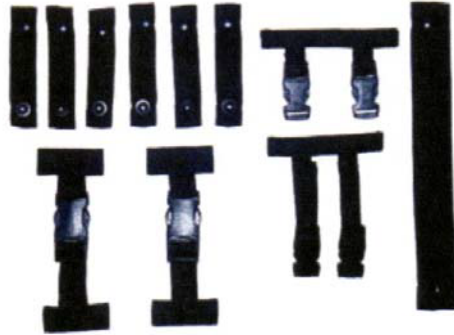
2 Piece Full Collar - x1



2 Piece Half Collar - x1



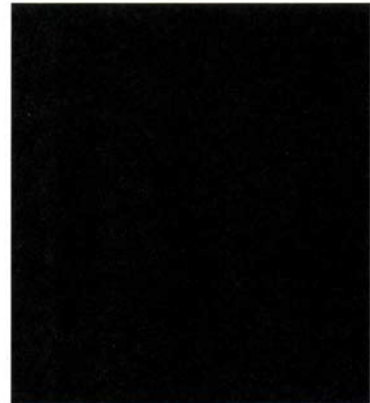
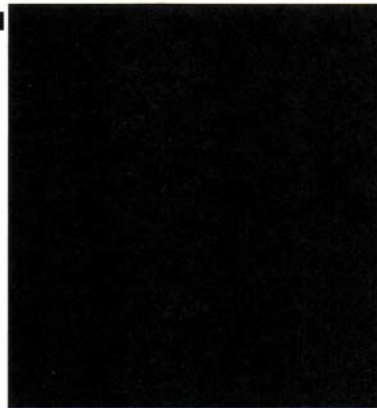
First Aid Pouch x1



Ancillaries Set - x1



Utility Pouch x1



NB: A set of Soft Armour is also included but has not been illustrated.

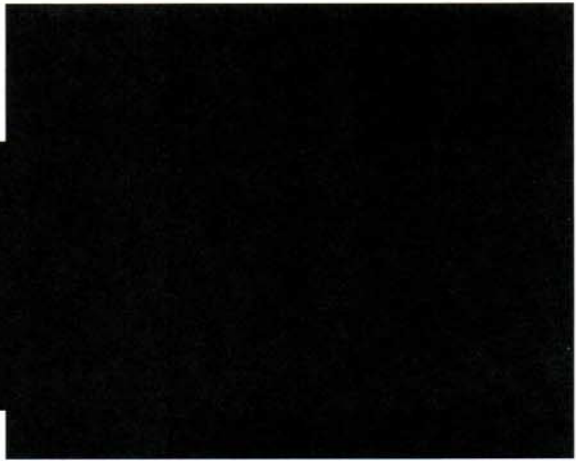
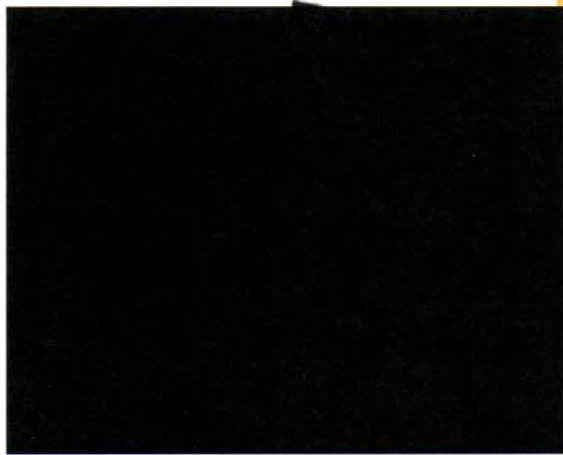
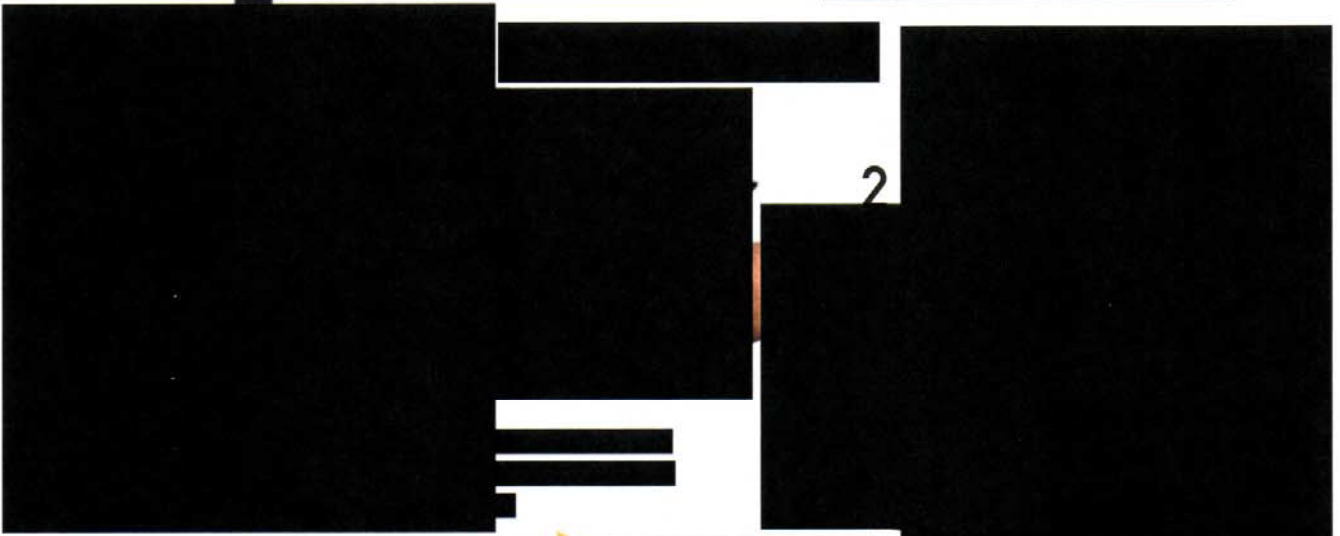
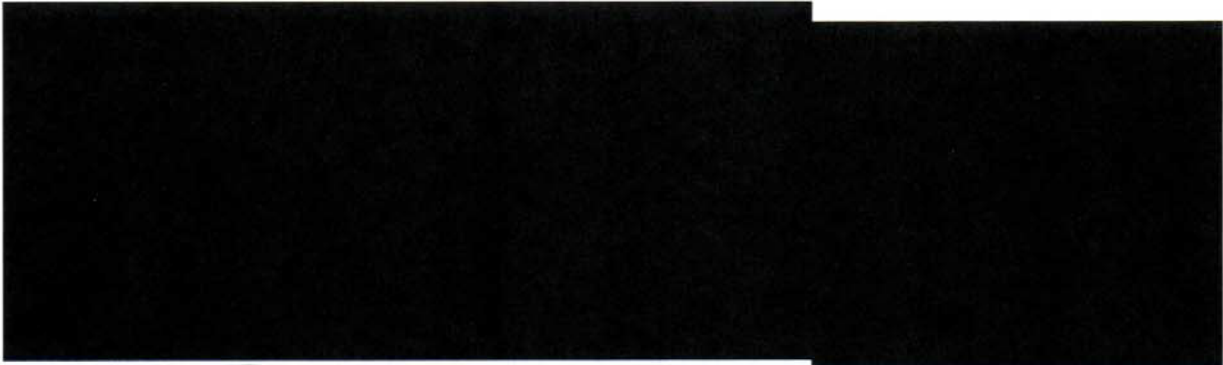
Basic Vest Assembly



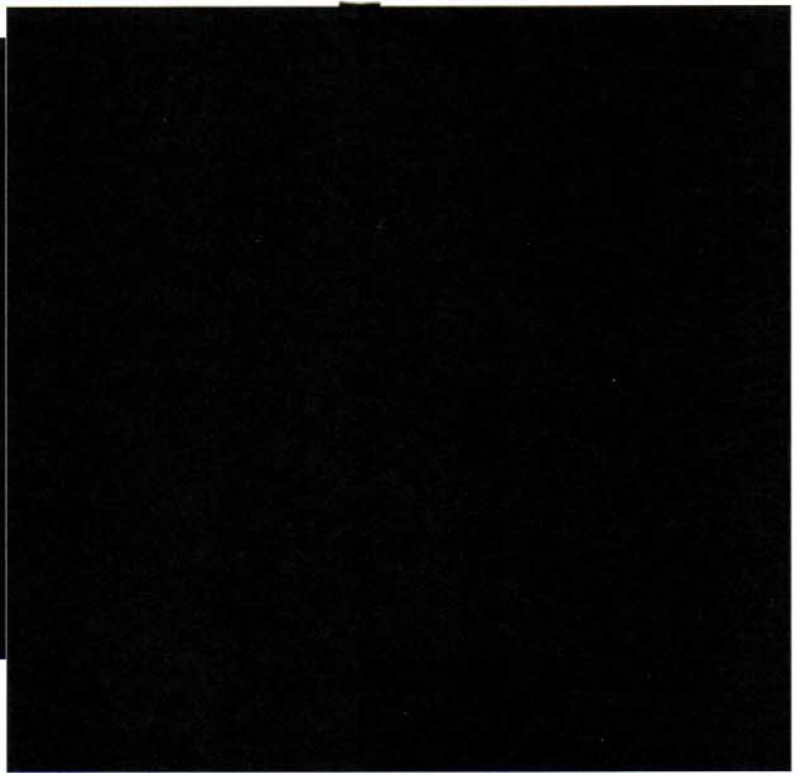
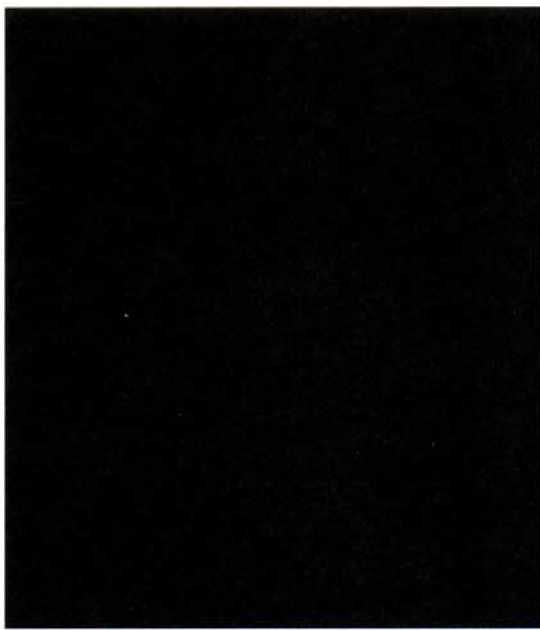
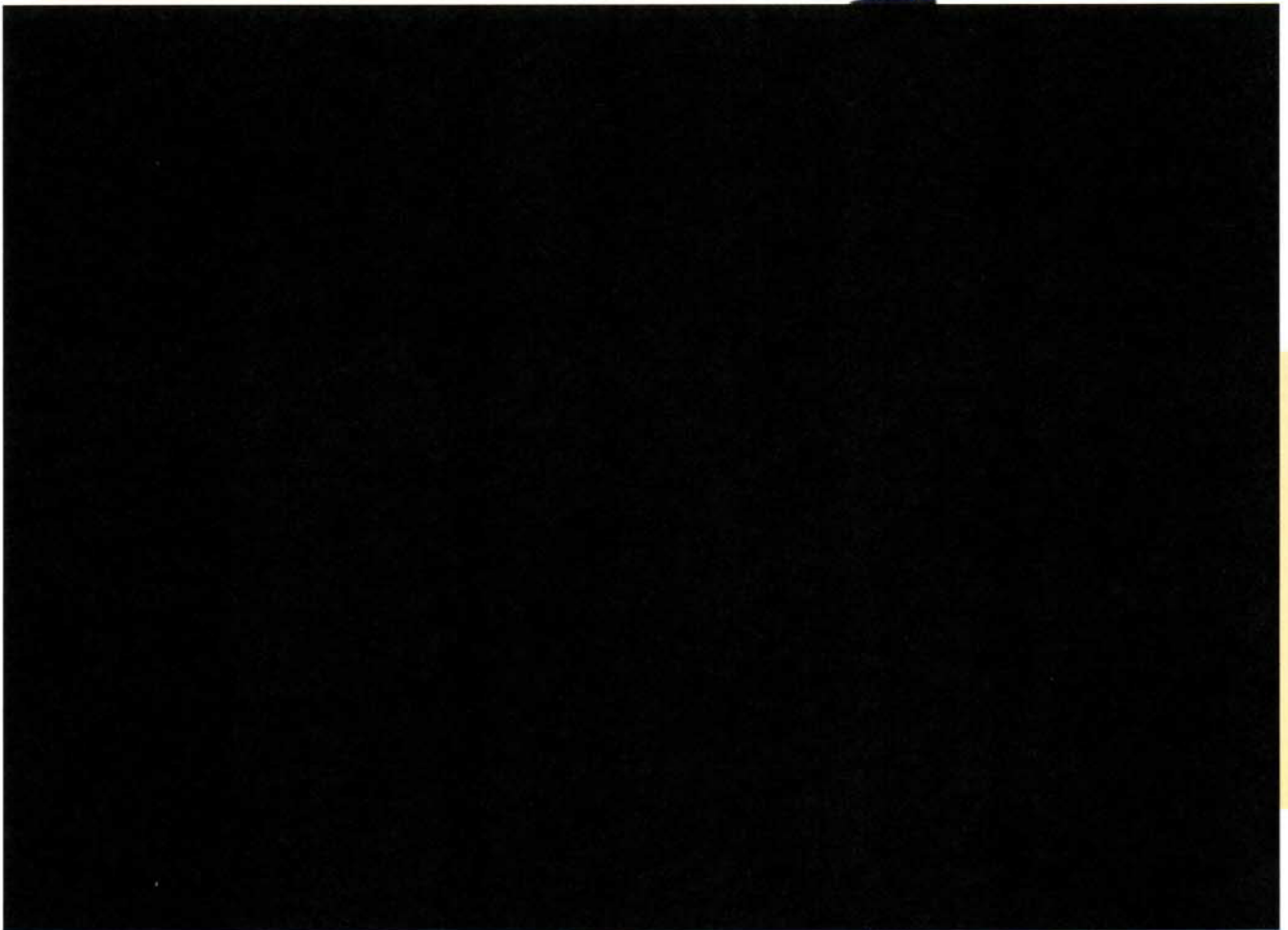
Complete Assembly

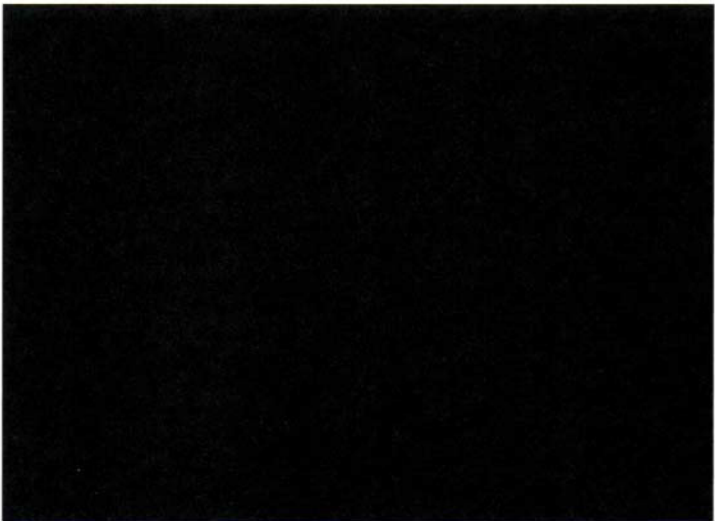
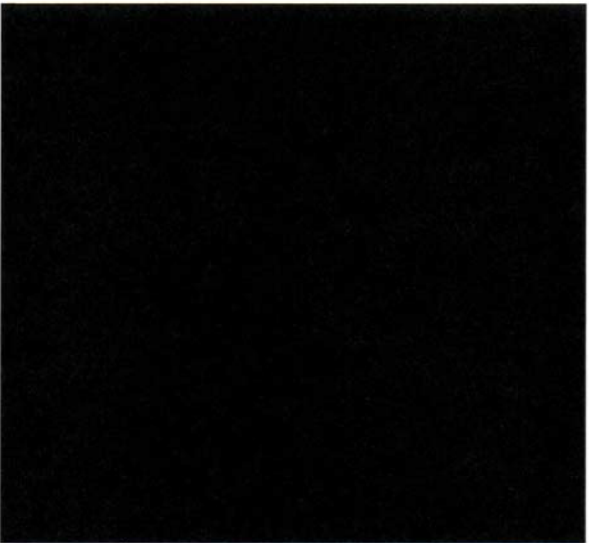
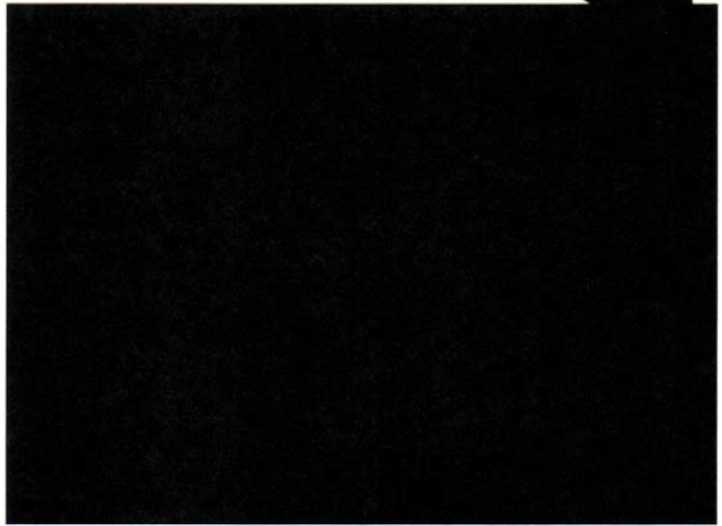
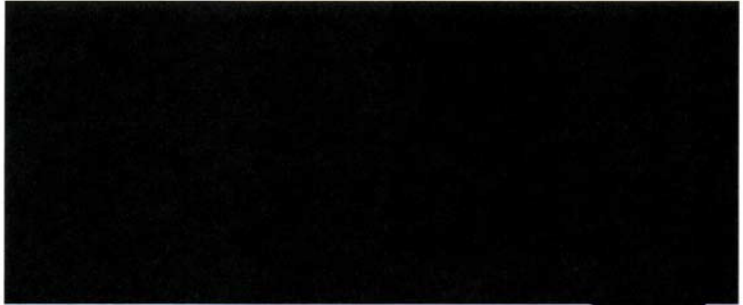
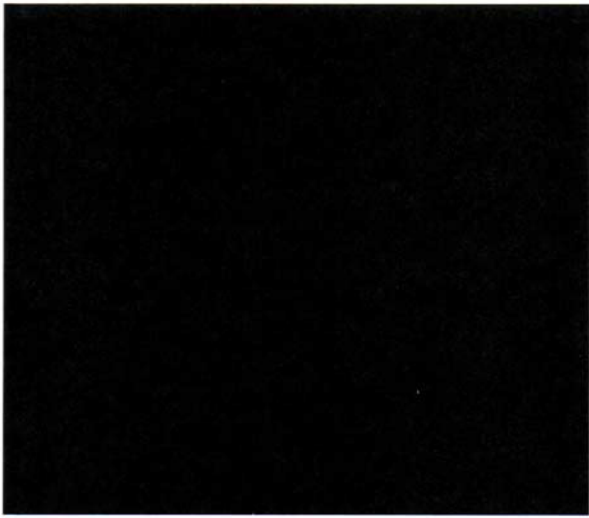


Assembly



Assembly





Assembly

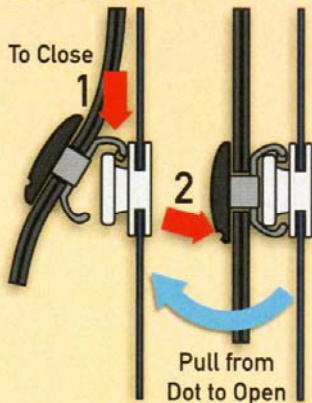
One way Studs

The studs used throughout the items in the Osprey Mk4 Body Armour, use 'One Way Studs' these prevent accidental release of fastenings whilst in use. They require no special equipment or tools to open. Any use of tools could permanently damage the fixings.

The stud is designed to only fasten or release when pushed or pulled in one direction, this direction is indicated by a dot on the stud button.



The top stud features a locking nub on the top of the inner rim



To close the stud the locking nub at the top of the female stud should be looped onto the raised rim of the male. Push the base of the stud and the two units lock.

To Open, simply pull the stud from the base.

Assembling the Main Vest Body

1

- ▶ On a suitable flat area. Lay out both parts of the Vest as indicated.



2

- ▶ Connect the Front & Back Vest panels together at the shoulders using the Hook & Loop and the two stud fixings.



3

- ▶ To complete the vest assembly bring the extended sides of the back panel around to fix to the front panel, fasten these at the sides by hook & loop fabric.

The waist band (pre fitted) is adjustable.

Assembly

Fitting the OPS Panel



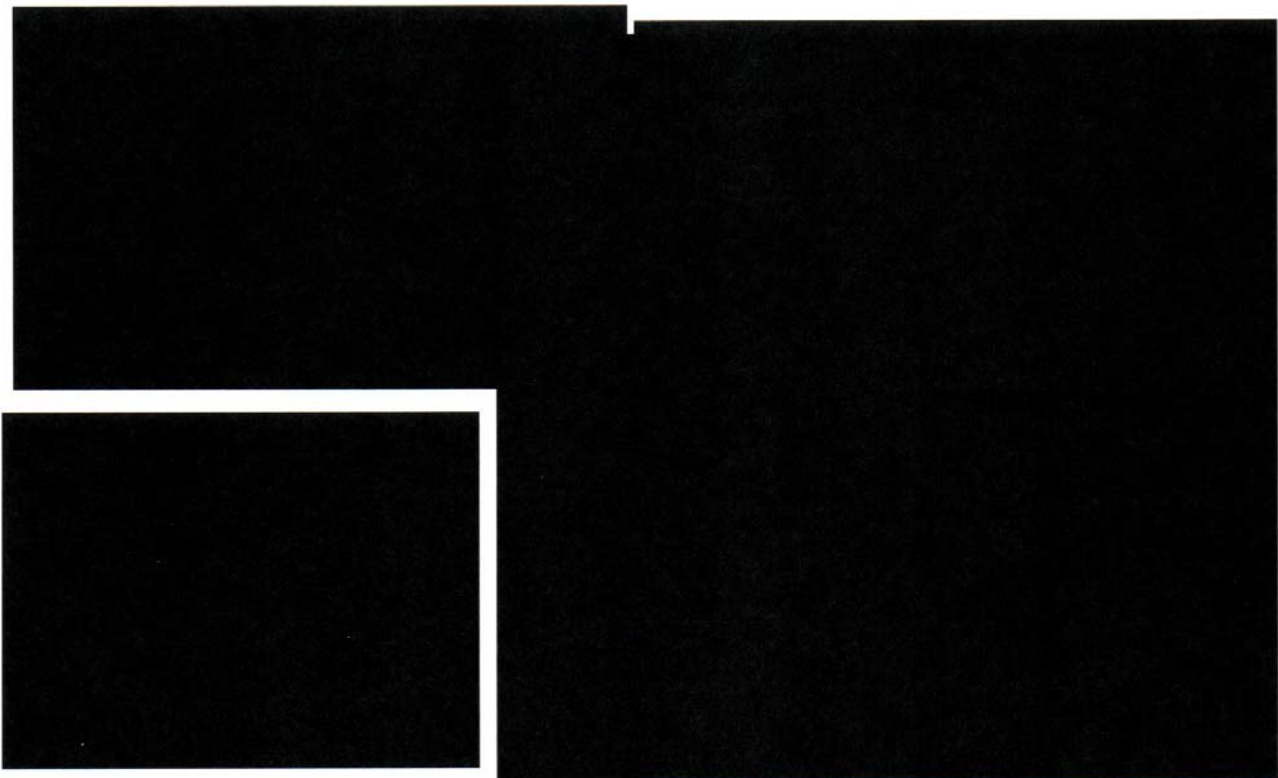
▲ First Fixing of the OPS Panel is by Hook & Loop



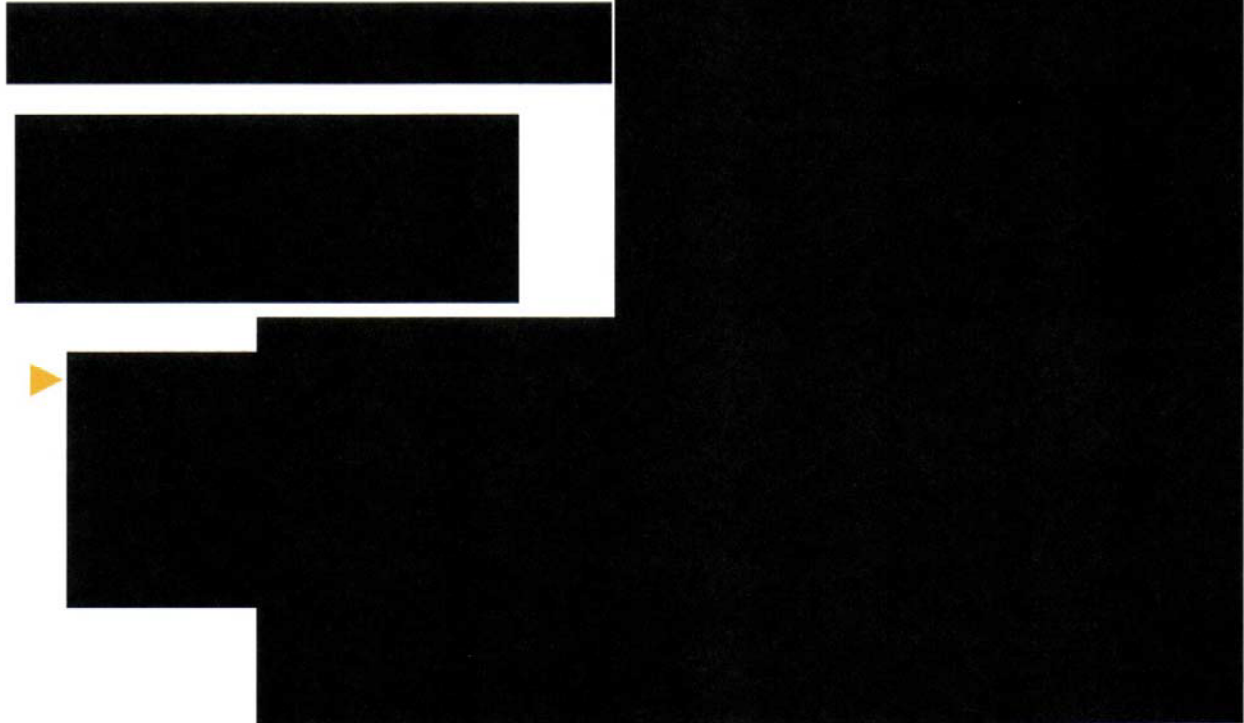
▲ The studded loops hold the OPS Panel to the main vest body

▲ T Bars & Webbing straps add fixing points to the sides.

▲ The Webbing can be adjusted for fitting & comfort.



Assembly



Fitting the Collars

A choice of collars may be fitted. The full collar or the Half Collar.

Both Collars are supplied as a two piece unit and fit similarly.



▲ Full Collar



▲ Half Collar



▶ 1 At the back of the collar, pull the webbing strap through the central top loop on the Vest Mollé Webbing



▶ Join the two collar sections, and fit the collar to the Vest Collar Flaps using the Hook & Loop fixings and complete by closing the three studs on each side.



▶ 2 Close the stud on the webbing strap to complete fitting.

The front of the collar is adjustable for comfort.

Assembly

Fitting the Brassards & Shoulder Guards

The Brassards & Shoulder Guards offer integrated protection for the upper arm and shoulder. Properly fitted they will not impede movement & flexibility.

- ▼ To fix the Brassard to the Vest. Open the main shoulder fixing and attach the top tab to the exposed vest using the Hook & Loop fixings. Reattach the shoulder fixing.



- ▲ The Brassards are additionally fixed to the vest by two short elasticated studded straps. The first attaches to the top front shoulder, as seen above.
- ▶ The second is attached 'through' the shoulder fixing to its fixing point on the back, see the photograph right.



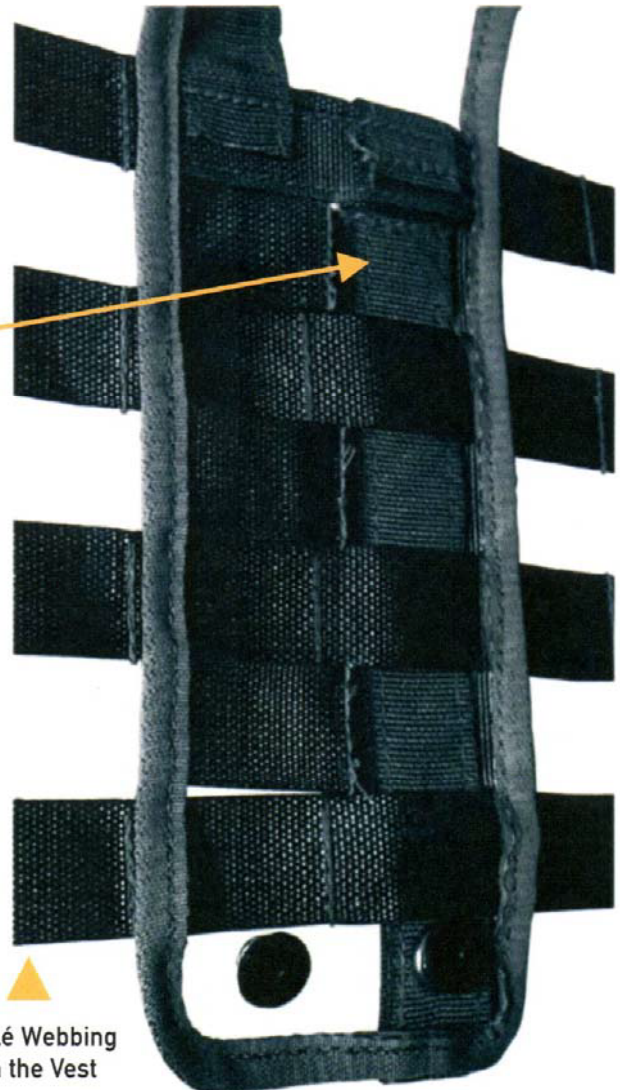
- ▶ The Shoulder Guards attach to the vest body using hook and loop fixings & 3 studs. Additional stability & flexibility is provided by attaching the studded elasticated strap to the Brassard.



Using the Mollé fixing system

The pouches and accessories provided for the Osprey Mk4, make use of the 'Mollé' fixing system. Properly fitted, this provides an extremely strong bond between the pouch or other accessory and the Vest itself.

The Rigid Mollé Bar of the Pouch, should be 'woven' through each of the horizontal webbings in turn.



Mollé Webbing on the Vest



The vest panels feature horizontal Mollé webbings

Pouches and Accessories carry horizontal Mollé webbings and a rigid Mollé bar. The base of each bar features a one way stud to lock the bar to the body of the pouch.

Fitting the Ancillary items

Hydration Unit Fixings.

Fixings are provided to meet the requirements of most Hydration units. These can be positioned onto the Vest using the integral Molle webbings.

▶ 2 x Side release buckles mounted on a T Bar provide attachments for the top of the hydration unit.

▶ An additional T Bar with 2 x Side release buckles with adjustable webbing straps provide attachments for the base of the hydration unit.

Further support is provided by 6 x short studded webbing fixings.

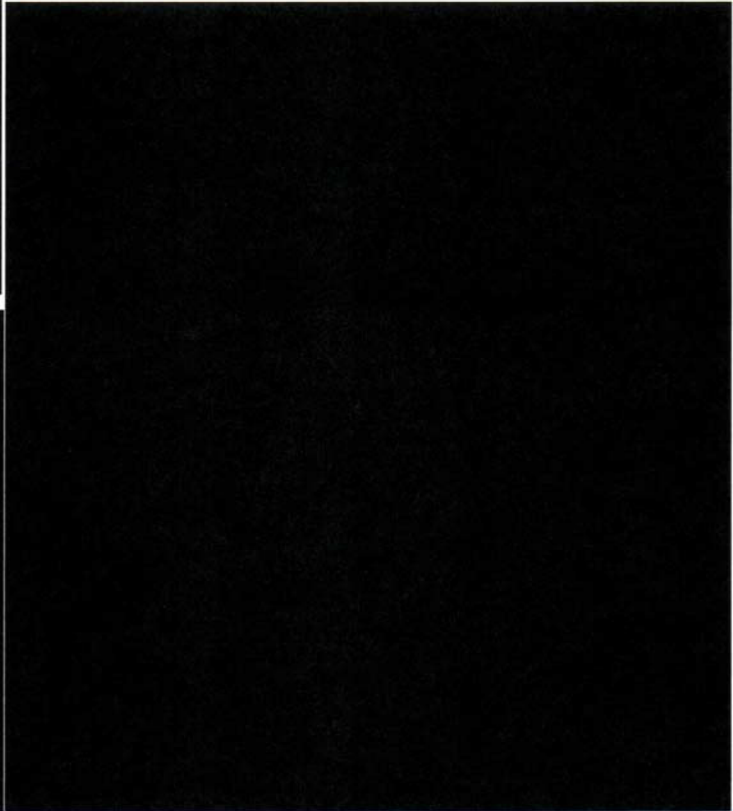
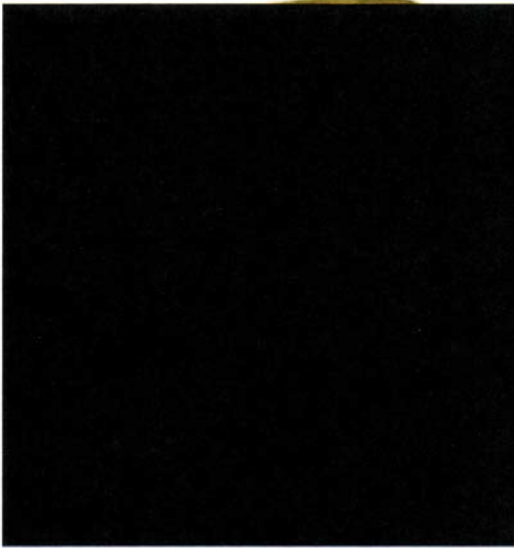
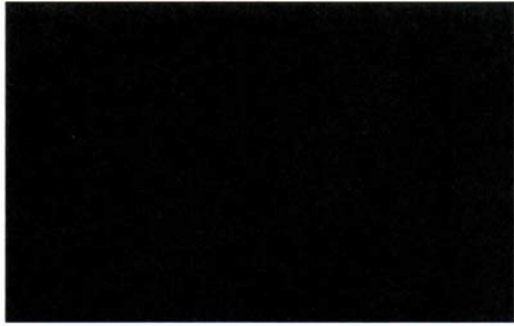


Rank Strap



▶ The Rank strap is fitted onto the front of the vest. It should be threaded through three Mollé webbings.

Hard Armour Plate Inspection



Soft Armour Maintenance

Inspection for panels and covers should follow the same guidelines as during laundering.

It is essential that the following regular maintenance is conducted:

- As a minimum period. The body armour is to be inspected annually by the QM Department.
- The body armour should be inspected for signs of damage to armour panels and protective covers.
- Armour panels should also be inspected at the earliest convenient time if the armour has had any physical contact with objects likely to cause damage.
- The outer cover is to be cleaned in a washing machine, in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.
- Fillers are to be removed prior to laundering.

Cleaning

THE COVER AND FILLER MUST BE SEPARATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FITTING INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE CLEANING

Cover The cover is washed in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.

Filler To clean the filler, wipe the surface of the protective cover using a damp cloth.

DO NOT IMMERSE IN WATER

Dry thoroughly before inserting back into the cover.

Fitting/Correct Sizing

If your Body Armour is **TOO SHORT** it is suggested that you may need to go up a height group to achieve a better fit.

If your Body Armour is **TOO LONG** it is suggested that you may need to go down a height group to achieve a better fit.

Size	Height	Chest
170/100	Up to 170cm	Up to 100cm
170/112	Up to 170cm	100 to 112cm
180/104	Up to 180cm	Up to 104cm
180/116	Up to 180cm	104 to 116cm
190/108	Up to 190cm	Up to 108cm
190/120	Up to 190cm	108 to 120cm
200/116	Up to 200cm	Up to 116cm
200/124	Up to 200cm	116 to 124cm

NATO Stock Numbers (NSNs)

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 170/100
NSN 8470-99-396-2394

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 170/112
NSN 8470-99-396-2395

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 180/104
NSN 8470-99-396-2396

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 180/116
NSN 8470-99-396-2397

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 190/108
NSN 8470-99-396-2398

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 190/120
NSN 8470-99-396-2399

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 200/116
NSN 8470-99-396-2400

Cover Osprey Body
Armour Mk4A
Size 200/124
NSN 8470-99-396-2401



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