



**Ministry  
of Defence**

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Our Reference:  
FOI2023/05174  
Date:  
11 May 2023

Dear

Thank you for your email of 22 April 2023 requesting the following information:

**'I am seeking the following information: 1. Precisely what does the rifle cleaning kit for the SA80A1 consist of? 2. Precisely what does the rifle cleaning kit for the SA80A3 consist of? 3. If there were no changes between the A1 and A3 kits, could the rationale behind this decision be explained? 4. What is the commercial value, to MOD, of an individual SA80A3 cleaning kit ? As much specific information concerning the cleaning kits, to support the above request, would be appreciated.'**

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all of the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below. Under Section 16 of the FOIA (advice and assistance), we can advise you that the SA80A1 cleaning kit came into service in 1985 with the A3 cleaning kit introduced into service in 2017. Five of the items from the A1 cleaning kit (general purpose brush, wire brush, combination tool, muzzle cap, flannelette) were subsequently transferred to the Universal Weapon Cleaning Kit for small arms. The SA80A3 was not in service at the time of the introduction of the Universal Weapon Cleaning Kit, which is accessible with the following link :

<https://www.surplusandlost.co.uk/product/brand-new-british-army-surplus-small-arms-sa80-weapons-rifle-cleaning-kit/>

**1. Precisely what does the rifle cleaning kit for the SA80A1 consist of?**

The SA80 Maintenance Kit consists of:

No	Item Description and Annotations
1	ROLL, MAINT KIT, SMALL ARMS
2	COMBINATION TOOL, SMALL ARMS, CONSISTING OF THREE TOOLS; TWO OF WHICH ROTATE FREELY
3	PULLTHROUGH, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS
4	HANDLE, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS
5	BRUSH, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS

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6	BRUSH, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS
7	BRUSH, CLEANING, SMALL ARM PURE CHUNG KING BRISTLE WITH TYPE 6 NYLON HANDLE 111.00MM O/A LG 18.25MM O/D OLIVE DRAB PURE BRIS WITH G
8	BRUSH, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS
9	BRUSH, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS
10	SWAB, SMALL ARMS CLEANING
11	CAP, MUZZLE
12	ROD, CLEANING, SMALL ARMS
13	CLOTH, FLANNELETTE, COTTON; 110G MASS PER SQ METRE 4.45-CM W WHITE GROUND W/RED STRIPES AT 4.45-CM INTERVALS ROT RESISTANT
14	BOTTLE APPLICATOR; CAPACITY 100 ML, POURER, SCREW CAP
15	PAD

**2. Precisely what does the rifle cleaning kit for the SA80A3 consist of?**

The only change to the Universal Weapon Cleaning Kit as a result of the SA80A3 coming into service was the introduction of the L85A3 combi tool and the removal of the spray pump and separate cap for the oil bottle to a combined bottle with drip nozzle and cap.

**3. If there were no changes between the A1 and A3 kits, could the rationale behind this decision be explained?**

The changes are clarified at point 2.

**4. What is the commercial value, to MOD, of an individual SA80A3 cleaning kit ?**

The commercial value of an individual SA80A3 cleaning kit is approximately £31.

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 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