Example of contents for First Aid Kits

For most workplaces, a first aid should include the following items.

Instructions for providing first aid—including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) flow chart Note book and pen 1 Resuscitation face mask or face shield Disposable nitrile examination gloves (nitrile is a latex-free rubber suitable for people with latex allergies) 5 pairs Gauze pieces 7.5 x 7.5 cm, sterile 3 per pack 5 aline, 15 ml 8 Wound cleaning wipe, single 1% Cetrimide BP 10 Adhesive dressing strips—plastic or fabric, packet of 50 1 Splinter probes, single use, disposable 10 Tweezers/forceps 11 Non-adherent wound dressing/pad 5 x 5 cm (small) Non-adherent wound dressing/pad 7.5 x 10 cm (medium) 30 Non-adherent wound dressing/pad 10 x 10 cm (large) 11 Conforming cotton bandage, 5 cm width 12 Conforming cotton bandage, 7.5 cm width 13 Crepe bandage, 10 cm, for serious bleeding and pressure application 15 Safety pins, packet of 6 BPC wound dressings No. 14, medium BPC wound dressings No. 15, large 11 Dressing—Combine Pad 9 x 20 cm Plastic bags—clip seal 11 Eye pad, single use 12 Access to 20 minutes of clean running water or, if this is not available, hydrogel 3.5 gm sachets 15 Instant ice pack for treatment of soft tissue injuries and some stings 1	Item	Quantity
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Emergency rescue blanket for shock or hypothermia 1 Eye pad, single use 4 Access to 20 minutes of clean running water or, if this is not available, hydrogel 3.5 gm sachets 5 sachets	Plastic bags—clip seal	1
Eye pad, single use 4 Access to 20 minutes of clean running water or, if this is not available, hydrogel 3.5 gm sachets 5 sachets	Triangular bandage, calico or cotton minimum width 90 cm	2
Access to 20 minutes of clean running water or, if this is not available, hydrogel 3.5 gm sachets 5 sachets	Emergency rescue blanket for shock or hypothermia	1
, , , ,	Eye pad, single use	4
Instant ice pack for treatment of soft tissue injuries and some stings	Access to 20 minutes of clean running water or, if this is not available, hydrogel 3.5 gm sachets	5 sachets
	Instant ice pack for treatment of soft tissue injuries and some stings	1

Medication including analgesics like paracetamol and aspirin should not be included in first aid kits because of their potential to cause adverse health effects in some people including pregnant women and people with medical conditions like asthma. The supply of these medications may also be controlled by drugs and poisons laws. Workers requiring prescribed and over-the-counter medications should carry their own medication for their personal use as necessary.

However, workplaces may consider including an asthma-relieving inhaler and a spacer to treat asthma attacks and epinephrine auto-injector for the treatment of anaphylaxis or severe allergies. These should be stored according to the manufacturers' instructions and first aiders should be provided with appropriate training.





Some types of workplaces may require extra items to treat specific types of injuries or illnesses. These may also require your first aiders to have additional training.

Outdoor module

If work is performed outside and there is a risk of insect or plant stings or snake bites, assess whether a first aid kit should include:

- a heavy duty 10 cm crepe bandage for snake bites
- sting relief cream, gel or spray.

Remote module

Where people work in remote locations, a first aid kit should include:

- a heavy duty 10 cm crepe bandage for snake bites
- large clean sheeting, for covering burns
- thermal blanket, for treating shock
- whistle, for attracting attention, and
- torch/flashlight.

The appropriate contents will vary according to the nature of the work and its associated risks.

Burn module

If workers are at risk of receiving burns, a first aid kit should include:

- burn treatment instructions on two waterproof instruction cards: one for the first aid kit and the other to be located on the wall next to the emergency shower or water supply
- hydrogel, 8 x 3.5 gram sachets
- hydrogel dressings
- clean polythene sheets, small, medium and large, and
- 7.5 cm cotton conforming bandage.

The information in this document is an extract of Appendix E from the First aid in the workplace Code of Practice. The Code of Practice is available for free download from the NT WorkSafe website worksafe.nt.gov.au