



Security Equipment & Clothing PPE & Workwear

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Overt V's Covert?

Overt armour is worn over clothing and is typically heavy and highly visible. It is clearly recognised as a deterrent to assailants and is the preferred option for Police and Security Officers.

Covert armour is typically lighter and more discrete than overt armour. Most covert armour has the advantage of being comfortable and flexible. It is less aggressive as it is worn under clothing. Covert armour is ideal for security roles such as Close Protection, Door Supervision and people within covert security roles.

What Level Of Protection Do I Need?

When you are thinking about purchasing a protective vest you need to think about what type of threat you are going to be facing with a risk analysis and threat assessment, including:

1. The weaponry likely to be used by attackers.
2. The probable strength and ferocity of the potential attack.
3. The frequency with which the person to be protected may be exposed to attack.

Please Note:

As the protection level increases so does the bulkiness and weight of the vest. When purchasing a vest you need to balance your decision on cost, protection and practicality within your job role.

Government Certification?

Body armour standards authorities such as the U.S. National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the UK Home Office Scientific Development Branch (HOSDB) make the job of selecting the right armour easier by setting standards for low, medium and high levels of protection.

Protection levels generally range from low numbers for lower protection levels to high numbers for higher protection as follows:

Stab Armour?

Available in 3 levels and capable of protecting against an increasing level of energy (measured in Joules) when tested to the UK Home Office Body Armour Standards for UK Police (2007).

Stab resistant body armour is tested by dropping weighted knives at specific energies; the samples are then examined for blade penetration through the back face. Penetrations through the back face must not be more than a very small allowable safe limit.

In Increasing Order Of Protection:

Basic Uncertified = Relative protection: LOW

Provides 18-26 joules protection against the UK Home Office test knife and the following relative protection against different weapons:

- Spikes = Poor
- Narrow Blades = Poor
- Medium Blades = Good
- Wide Blades = Good
- Hypodermics = Excellent
- Impact = Very Good

Construction

- Moulded semi-flexible shell.
- 3mm Modified Polymer Composite.

HOSDB KR1 = Relative protection: MEDIUM

Provides 24-36 joules protection against the UK Home Office test knife and the following relative protection against different weapons:

- Spikes = Good
- Narrow Blades = Good
- Medium Blades = Very Good
- Wide Blades = Very Good
- Hypodermics = Excellent
- Impact = Excellent

Construction

- Moulded semi-flexible shell
- 4mm Modified Polymer Composite

HOSDB KR2 = Relative protection: HIGH

Provides 33-50 joules protection against the UK Home Office test knife and the following relative protection against different weapons:

- Spikes = Very Good
- Narrow Blades = Very Good
- Medium Blades = Excellent
- Wide Blades = Excellent
- Hypodermics = Excellent
- Impact = Excellent

Construction

- Moulded semi-flexible shell
- 6mm Modified Polymer Composite

Stab Upgrading Panels?

These panels are designed to provide or increase the level of stab protection over the centre of the torso, to help protect the vital organs. They can be used with ballistic vests to provide stab protection (KR1).

KR1

Size

- To fit 10 x 12" pockets

Shape

- Flat, or Body shaped

Construction

- Modified Polymer Composite
- KR1: 4mm

Ballistic Armour?

Available in 3 levels and capable of protecting against an increasing level of energy (when tested to the U.S. National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

Ballistic (**bullet**) resistant body armour is tested by firing specific bullets at specific velocities at samples mounted on plasticine blocks. The armour is then examined for complete perforations and the plasticine examined for depth of indentations. The armour must have no complete perforations and the indentations must be no deeper than a specified depth.

In Increasing Order Of Protection:

Level 2A (Lower Velocity 9mm, and 40 S&W)

This Armour Protects Against:

- 9 mm Full Metal Jacketed Round Nose (FMJ RN) bullets, with nominal masses of 8.0 g (124 gr) impacting at a minimum velocity of 332 m/s (1090 ft/s) or less.
- 40 S&W calibre Full Metal Jacketed (FMJ) bullets, with nominal masses of 11.7 g (180 gr) impacting at a minimum velocity of 312 m/s (1025 ft/s) or less.

Level 2 (Medium Velocity 9mm, and 357 Magnum)

This Armour Protects Against:

- 9 mm Full Metal Jacketed Round Nose (FMJ RN) bullets, with nominal masses of 8.0 g (124 gr) impacting at a minimum velocity of 358 m/s (1175 ft/s) or less.
- 357 Magnum Jacketed Soft Point (JSP) bullets, with nominal masses of 10.2 g (158 gr) impacting at a minimum velocity of 427 m/s (1400 ft/s) or less.
- Threats mentioned in Level 2A.

Level 3A (High Velocity 9mm, and 44 Magnum)

This Armour Protects Against:

- 9 mm Full Metal Jacketed Round Nose (FMJ RN) bullets, with nominal masses of 8.0 g (124 gr) impacting at a minimum velocity of 427 m/s (1400 ft/s) or less.
- 44 Magnum Semi Jacketed Hollow Point (SJHP) bullets, with nominal masses of 15.6 g (240 gr) impacting at a minimum velocity of 427 m/s (1400 ft/s) or less.
- Protection against most handgun rounds, as well as the threats mentioned in Level 2 and 2A.

Ballistic Vest Construction

- Multi-layer Aramid (Kevlar/Twaron)
- Hybrid fabric, quilted to increase multi-hit capability.
- Integral trauma pack to reduce back-face deformation and blunt trauma injury.

Ballistic Upgrade Panels?

For use with ballistic vests. Designed to increase ballistic protection **(over the area of the insert)**.

Increases protection to the next level:

- Level 2A to Level 2
- Level 2 to Level 3A

Can be used with Level 3A armour to provide protection against most handgun rounds over the vital organs. Also increases knife protection.

Flexible (flat) breast or back panel.

Construction

Multiple layers of Aramid (Kevlar/Twaron) fabric, quilted to increase multi-hit capability.

Semi rigid (flat) breast or back panel.

Construction

Multiple layers of Aramid (Kevlar/Twaron) fabric laminated to form a semi-flexible panel with increased penetration and energy absorbing properties.

Dual Armour

Depending on risk analysis and threat assessment of your job role you may determine you are at threat from both Stab and Ballistic attacks.

To calculate the protection of a dual vest (**Ballistic and Stab**), simply combine the relevant level of protection of the ballistic and stab vest together.



HEAD
2 TOE