How to Care, Use, and the Limitations of Body Armor

Care/Cleaning/Storage

Armor should not be washed in a washing machine. Use a mild solution of soap and water to wipe down panels. Do not submerge panels under water. Please lay panels out flat to air dry. Do not use any harsh chemicals or bleach to clean panels.

Armor carriers can be laundered in a washing machine using a mild detergent with NO bleach additives or fabric softener. Remember to remove all straps and ballistic panels prior to washing. Dry carrier in dryer on gentle cycle or you can always air dry.

When storing your vest please do not hang. Hanging will cause premature wear on your straps. Lay flat on a flat surface for storage.

Use

Please make sure that your panels are in the carrier correctly. There is a label on the ballistic panels which tell you “Body Side”, meaning that side toward your body. There is a front and back panel. Front panel has a scoop in the neck while the back panel is straight across the top.

Use the straps to secure the vest to your body. If you have a trauma pac or plate, make sure you insert it into the carrier plate pocket, front or back.

Capabilities/Limitations

Ballistic armor is certified to the latest NIJ standards. NIJ standards do not cover all possible rounds that are on the streets. Please check current NIJ Standards for baseline test rounds and velocity standards for personal body armor in respect to the level of armor you have been issued.