



AIRCREW LIFEJACKETS MK. 4A, 4B, MK. 6 AND 6A, MK. 7, MK. 8 AND 8A

Designed in co-operation with the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine, The Royal Naval Air Medical School, and the Ministry of Aviation.

PURPOSE

The Mk. 4A, 4B, Mk. 6 & 6A and Mk. 7 Aircrew Lifejackets provide similar flotation and survival properties, and differ only in the provision of the aids to location fitted. The Mk. 8 and Mk. 8A lifejackets are fitted with an 86 gramme CO₂ cylinder and relief valve to permit underwater escape from an aircraft.

The lifejackets float a survivor at an angle of 45° to the vertical, with the head well clear of the water. They are positively self-righting, and will maintain the mouth of an unconscious wearer clear of the water. The life-jackets do not interfere with other equipment and do not restrict the wearer. They may be safely inflated during a parachute descent without fouling the parachute harness or injuring the survivor when dropping into water.

DESCRIPTION

The lifejackets consist of a cotton gaberdine waistcoat and a container which protects and restrains a rubber-proofed stole. Webbing loops are provided for attaching quick release fasteners for a dinghy pack. The waistcoat is fastened at the front by three buttons, and adjusted to fit individual wearers by an adjustable webbing strap across the back.

The stole and container, together with lifting becket and pull down cords, are folded into a small yoke which is fastened by nylon press studs.

When the inflation mechanism is pulled, the stole is inflated from a CO₂ cylinder through a Schrader valve. The pressure inside the stole bursts the yoke press studs apart. An oral topping up valve is also provided, and the angle of flotation may be adjusted by the pull down cords. All the lifejackets are fitted with a 34 gramme CO₂ cylinder except the Mk. 8 and Mk. 8A which are fitted with an 86 gramme cylinder.

Pockets are provided on the waistcoat for a radio location beacon, a water activated battery and lamp, a heliograph and emergency code cards. Mountings are attached to the stole container for the beacon aerial and the light. A whistle is fitted into a pocket on the stole container, and a lifeline and toggle are attached to one lifting becket.

A fluorescein sea marker is contained in a waterproof rip-open pocket. The pockets have been carefully designed so that they are easily opened by a draw rod and the contents easily accessible, even with chilled hands.



Mk. 6 Aircrew Lifejacket

COLOUR

The lifejackets are normally manufactured in traffic yellow colour for easy location of a survivor, but other colours can be supplied to customers requirements.

RADIO LOCATION EQUIPMENT

Pockets are provided on the lifejacket for holding radio location equipment:

Mk. 4A—3 piece SARAH

Mk. 4B—2 piece SARBE

Mk. 6 & 6A—3 piece SARBE

Mk. 7—2 piece SARBE

Mk. 8 & 8A—3 piece SARBE

The 2 piece SARBE transmits a location signal when the aerial is clipped onto the stole container and unfurled. In addition to the location signal, the 3 piece SARBE and SARAH are provided with transmit and receive speech facilities.

MINIFLARES

The Mk. 4B, 6, 6A, 8 and 8A lifejackets are provided with a pocket for holding a pack of Miniflare red distress signals.

WEIGHT

The weight of each lifejacket, complete except for radio location equipment and Miniflares, is approximately 4 lb 7 oz (2.02 kg).

STORES REFERENCE NUMBERS

	Ref. No.
Mk. 4A complete	22C/1877
Mk. 4B complete	22C/NIV
Mk. 6 complete	22C/2106
Mk. 6A complete	22C/2108
Mk. 7 complete	22C/2274
Mk. 8 complete	22C/2558
Mk. 8A complete	22C/2562

The lifejackets consist of a waistcoat, a stole and the items listed below, except for the Miniflare, which is supplied separately.

	Ref. No.
Mk. 4A waistcoat	22C/1876
Mk. 4B waistcoat	22C/NIV
Mk. 6 waistcoat	22C/2107
Mk. 6A waistcoat	22C/2109
Mk. 7 waistcoat	22C/2275
Mk. 8 waistcoat	22C/2559
Mk. 8A waistcoat	22C/2560
Stoles for Mk. 4A to Mk. 7	22C/1182
Stole for Mk. 8 & Mk. 8A with relief valve	22C/2561
CO ₂ cylinder—34 grammes	6D/1865
CO ₂ cylinder—86 grammes	6D/2753
Operating Head Type M	6D/1624
Water Activated Light	5A/4216
Fluorescein Sea Marker	22C/1185
Whistle	22C/1186
Lifeline and toggle	22C/1739
Ground/Air Emergency Code	27C/2366
Heliograph (2 in x 2 in)	27C/2364
Nylon Rod (for closure of pockets)	22C/1862
Signal Miniflare Mk. 1	12D/1393

RADIO LOCATION EQUIPMENT

		Stores Ref. No.	Weight
SARBE	Type BE.310 (3 piece)	5825-99-952-6481	49 oz (1.39 kg)
SARBE	Type BE.301 (2 piece)	5825-99-950-8198	36 oz (1.02 kg)
SARAH		10D/20094.	56.5 oz (1.61 kg)