

# Tactical Gear – Care For Long Life

Extending the life of your tactical gear is very essential, their 'costliness' being the main reason. Replacing them or buying new ones may not always be possible. So, it becomes important for you to take care them as well as possible.

The question arises here as how to take care of this precious gear? Have a look at these pro-active tips that can help you in maintaining the integrity of your tactical gear.

## Different Types Of Tactical Gear

### Boots

Allowing your tactical boots to get wet on a consistent basis will likely damage them over time. Follow the following tips to prevent your boots – arguably your most important piece of tactical gear – from losing their 'health.'

- When your boots get wet, take out the shoe pads immediately and allow them to dry naturally.
- Do not wash your heavy boots ever in a washing machine as it will deteriorate the quality of your boots. It will also bang up the washing machine from the inside – neither of which is a desirable outcome.
- It is always judicious to hand wash your boots yourself if you do not have access to an industrial machine.

To clean the boots, wipe off any loose dust from the sides and soles of the boots using a damp sponge. Clean the inserts with a small brush. Then blot a little all-purpose leather cleaner

and wipe using circular strokes. Allow the boots to air dry and then buff the leather sections with polish. This process will make them look new almost instantly.

## Firearms

Firearms are an important part of the defensive suite. Few things are built to last forever and firearms are no different. However, with a little attention, your firearms can extend the life of this tactical gear and possibly even allow it to protect your family for generations.

Firearm maintenance is all about lubricating or oiling them on a regular basis. Paying attention to the following critical parts is important:

- The bolt should be kept healthy by applying a light coat of oil with a silicone cloth.
- If the firearm possesses a bolt carrier, it should have a very light coat of oil and then wipe it clean. Too much oil here will snag the particles that will gum up the function of the bolt.
- To clean the bore, pass swabs through them until they come out clean.
- The trigger mechanisms of the firearm must be wiped clean, cleared of debris and have very little oil.
- Apply a very light coat of oil if you have metal riding on any moving metal, and let it sit.

## Knives

With time, knives lose their shine and become blunt. Cleaning helps them to stay in their original form. Sometimes, a dull blade is more dangerous than a sharp knife if you fail to maintain them properly. Keeping your knife spotless and smooth-running is the best way to prevent oxidation and allow

this key piece of tactical gear to stay fully functional. Let's see how.

- Rinse the knife blade under the running water to remove any loose dirt or hard residue. Dry it thoroughly after rinsing and then apply a small amount of oil to the blade. Gun oil, or machine oil can be used for this task.
- To get your knife sharpened like new, consult a professional staff member at a cutlery store near you or you can try this great knife sharpening kit.

## Body Armor

Body armor is defensive clothing that is designed to save your life from ballistic rounds and in some cases puncture wounds.

It can be the last line of defense in your tactical gear arsenal. To extend the life of your body armor you can:

- Ensure that you keep them clean, dry and store them away from the direct sunlight.
- Make sure you do not bend them, store them lying flat.
- Keep the armor separate from other items in your trunk to ensure that nothing slides over them.

When it comes to cleaning the armor, consider these few things:

- Never use chemical products like bleaches to clean them. Also, do not wash them in a machine.
- You must clean the removable panels of the carrier (special threat plates, armor panels). You must take them out from the carrier and wipe them down carefully. ALWAYS refer to manufacturer's instructions.
- After cleaning with the sponge, make sure you wipe off the left-over liquid and spot-wash the carrier, and allow it to dry on a flat surface before you replace the panels.

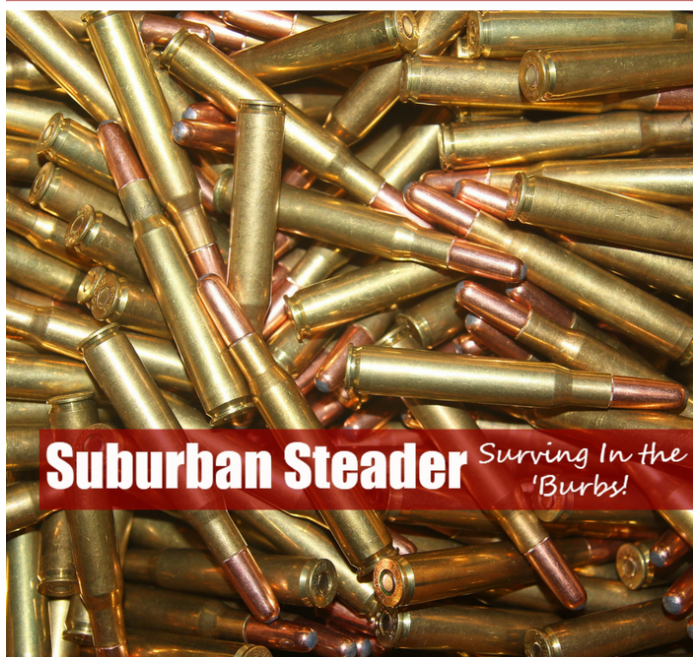
**Note:** Do not dry your carrier in a machine dryer or in direct sunlight. Also, never leave it dipped in standing water for long periods of time.

## **Conclusion**

Remember, you must always spend the time to care for your tactical gear if you want them to function continuously at high levels of performance. Proper care will guarantee longevity, sturdiness, and above all, dependability.



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