

Cleaning Instructions - Personal Equipment

All personnel equipment to be inspected

Following is the requirement for the processing of personnel equipment. All personnel equipment will be inspected by AQIS officers either prior to departure or on entry into Australia.

Detailed instructions for individual items

Ensure all Items of clothing and equipment are to be clean and free of seed, plant material, soil, insect nests, insects, scorpions, centipedes, ants and other insects and animals, as detailed in the list below.

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| Clothing | Clothing, which includes under garments, hats, socks and any scarf type item, is to be cleaned of all soil, seeds and plant material. All pockets should be unzipped/fastened and turned inside out if possible to remove all debris. |
| Footwear | Laces are to be removed from the footwear and all straps, Velcro, zip, or fast lace systems are to be thoroughly cleaned of plant material and soil. Particular attention is to be paid to the area of the footwear around the tongue and fastening system where there is a fold in the footwear material that can allow plant, soil and insect material to collect. All types of footwear are to be cleaned of all soil, animal and plant material and if necessary subject to water scrub and wash to achieve the desired standard and allowed to dry. |
| Knives, bayonets & blades | Includes Knives, bayonets, entrenching tools, machete, universal tools (Leatherman, Gerbar). Carrying pouches for these items are to be cleaned as for field packs and webbing. Military issue knives, bayonets, entrenching tools and universal tools are to be cleaned of all soil, plant and insect material and lightly oiled. |
| Webbing & Packs | All webbing and packs are to be disassembled and all pockets and apertures are to be opened and turned inside out and cleaned. Most webbing/packs can be subject to a 'wipe clean', however, items that have soil embedded into them are to be scrubbed with brushes and water to remove the soil and allowed to air dry. Attention should be paid to pouch fasteners, belt clips, buckles and Velcro fastenings to ensure that no soil, plant, or insect debris is caught in these areas. Belts are to be disassembled including pad belts to ensure all possible areas of contamination are inspected and cleaned. Water bottle pouches are particularly susceptible to seed and plant material becoming embedded in the lining and should be thoroughly checked to ensure all contamination is removed. |
| Trunks | Plastic trunks are to be subject to a wash down to remove all soil, plant and insect matter. Metal trunks are to be subject to the same clean as for plastic trunks with particular attention to the metal lips on the ends of the trunk, locks and under the rubber seal inside the lid. |
| Bags: Echelon, Divers, Equipment (Duffle bags) | Echelon bags are to be turned inside out and all soil, plant and insect debris removed The bag is to be subject to a 'wipe clean', however, if there is soil embedded into the fabric they are to be scrubbed with brushes and water to remove the soil and allowed to air dry. |

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Instructions for individual personal items

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| Helmets | Remove cam and or cloth covers and hot wash. Ensure inside lining, headband and chinstraps are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter. Scrub helmet with brushes and water if contaminated with embedded soil. Check all Velcro straps to ensure that all plant and seed material is removed. |
| Cloth Hats & Caps | All cloth hats and caps will require inspection. Should contamination be detected on inspection, further cleaning will be required. Wash the hat with hot water and remove all soil, plant and insect matter. |
| Gloves | Gloves require inspection. Should contamination be detected on inspection, further cleaning will be required. Gloves are particularly susceptible to soil and plant contamination. Gloves are to be scrubbed with water and brushes. |
| Sleeping Materials | Ensure sleeping bags are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter. Sleeping bags must be turned inside out to ensure no soil, plant, insect matter, or animals are trapped inside. Sleeping bags, liners and other sleeping materials are to be washed using hot water as required. |
| Stretchers | Stretchers require inspection. Prior to inspection, remove canvas/cloth from wooden or aluminium poles and braces. Canvas/cloth is to be cleaned by using a high-pressure water hose. Poles are to be washed and scrubbed with water and brushes to remove all plant, soil and insect matter. Stretchers are to be left disassembled for AQIS inspection. |
| Cover Body Armour and Inserts | Plates are to be removed and cleaned as necessary to remove any soil, plant and insect matter. The cover or coat is to be brushed or washed and brushed clean of any soil, plant and insect debris paying particular attention to the plate pocket and overlapping cloth areas. |
| Mosquito Nets, Camouflage Nets, Tents | Ensure that all mosquito nets, camouflage nets, tents, tent poles and tent pegs are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter. |
| Wet Weather Clothing | Wet weather protective clothing including Japara. Wash to remove all soil, plant and insect debris. |
| Rope Assembly | Inspect and remove all twigs, foliage etc. that has become embedded in the rope fibres. Wash to remove all soil, plant and insect matter. |
| First Aid Dressing | To be removed from pouch or untapped from webbing to ensure no soil, plant and insect matter has been trapped on the tape or in between tape and dressing. |
| Cloth Neck (Sweat Cloth) | Inspect and remove all twigs, foliage etc. that may have become embedded in the cloth fibres. To be washed, as necessary, to remove all soil, plant and insect matter. |
| Shelter Individual (Shelter half) | Wash to remove all soil, plant and insect debris. |
| Insulation Tape | Remove all insulation tape that has been utilised to hold items and other accessories on to webbing. |