



**KEMPTON CLOTHING**

## **BALLISTIC** PROTECTION

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## **How long is the Fortis vest warranty & when should armour be replaced?**

Fortis provides an initial warranty for all soft armour panels against all defects of design, materials and/or workmanship other than caused by fair wear and tear for a period of five (5) years from the date of delivery. The carriers are warranted for 12 months and should be replaced as needed. The warranty is null and void if improper care, misuse or neglect occurs. *See Warranty information for exact details.*

Each unit of body armour is made up of two parts: the protective panels and the carrier. The protective panels can be broken down into two types:

**1 KR1/SP1** panels. These panels are **Knife & Spike** (resistant to knife, stab, spike, hypodermic, slash & blunt trauma), where 'KR' denotes knife resistant and 'SP' denotes spike resistant.

**Knife/Spike** protective panels are identified by a red triangle on the armour panel and are warranted for five years; a replacement is recommended at the end of that period.

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**2 HG1/KR1/SP1** or **HG2/KR2/SP2** panels. These panels are **Multi-Purpose** (resistant to ballistic, knife, stab, spike, hypodermic, shrapnel, blunt trauma and slash), where 'HG' stands for handgun round resistant, 'KR' stand for knife resistant and 'SP' stands for spike resistant.

**Multi-purpose** protective panels are identified by a green square on the armour panel. These panels are initially warranted for five years. Due to material we use in the production of these products, it is possible to have the panels 'MOT'd, or re-certified' at the end of the five year period for a further five years. This means that for a relatively small re-certification cost the unit is serviceable for an overall

ten year period. The re-certification process involves returning the armour panels to us, where the armour panel is stripped of its outer nylon cover and the individual sheets of material making up the protective panel are carefully and expertly examined for any signs of stress or damage. Once we are satisfied that all the sheets are free from defect or fault, a new nylon cover is then put onto the armour panel. If any of the armour sheets need replacing due to damage, stress or misuse, we will tell you and let you know how much it will cost to put this right. The new label denotes the date of original issue and the fact the armour panel has been re-certified for a further five years.

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The carriers are warranted for 12 months and should be replaced as needed. The warranty is null and void if improper care, misuse or neglect occurs. See Warranty information for exact details.

The protective panels don't just 'stop working' at the end of warranty period, but there may be a tail-off of performance which may mean that the protective panel fails to achieve the level of protection against the particular threat level.

As a responsible employer, you have a duty of care to your employees to ensure that any protective equipment supplied to them (and this includes body armour) continues to meet the warranty requirements laid down by the equipment manufacturer.