



# BODYARMOR

OWNER'S MANUAL & WARRANTY

CONCEALABLE / TACTICAL

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## USE AND CARE OF BODY ARMOR

The use and care of your body armor vest is essential to maintaining its life throughout the warranted period of the vest. A use and care video on [www.safariland.com](http://www.safariland.com) will give you some important instructions on how to properly clean, assemble, maintain and store your vest.

**TO BEGIN, it is important to understand that your vest is made up of several components:**

1. The front and back carrier
2. The front and back ballistic panels
3. A soft trauma insert
4. And the shoulder and waist straps (You should have received two sets of shoulder and waist straps. One 4-pt and one 6-pt. When assembling your vest, only use one set of shoulder and waist straps.)
5. Assembling your vest

### VEST ASSEMBLY

To assemble your vest, it is **CRITICAL** that the wearer ensures the ballistic panels are inserted into the carrier with the **STRIKE FACE** facing away from your body. This is important because our ballistic panels are manufactured using a hybrid design with each layer performing a very specific task in a specific order. Improper insertion of a ballistic panel can result in serious injury or death.

Once you have determined the proper orientation for inserting your ballistic panels, identify the Grip-Lok™ suspension system which is located on the Strike Face side of the front and back ballistic panels and is comprised of hook tabs in each area of the shoulder. This system allows the front and back panels to adhere to the inside of the carrier, holding the panels in place. When in place, tug gently on the bottom of the panels to ensure the Velcro® Brand hook and loop is gripped securely. Finally, smoothen the ballistic panel in place and close the zipper on the front and back carrier.

### ADJUSTING YOUR VEST

Now you are ready to put your vest on. It is always best to have someone assist you the first time you adjust your vest, however, if you are adjusting your vest for the first time by yourself, start by laying the front and back of your vest on a flat surface and loosely adhere the shoulder straps. Your vest may come with more than one set of shoulder and waist straps. However, only one set is needed, and the other set should be used as replacements when necessary. Select the length of shoulder straps that would provide you with the most comfort. Begin by raising the vest over your head. The front panel should rest on your chest and the back panel on your back. Now, select the length of waist straps that would provide you with the most comfort. Loosely adhere the waist straps and connect the back panel to the front panel.

Next, it is important to adjust your vest in a seated position. Once seated, readjust the shoulder and waist straps for comfort. Remember, the vest will only protect what it covers. Therefore, it is important that you adjust the vest so that it is not too low or too high. A basic guideline is to wear the vest one inch below the clavicle notch. In addition, a vest that is too long may be subject to heavy impact on the duty belt which can cause set wrinkles or curling when in a seated position.

Finally, ensure you have an even amount of front panel over rear panel overlap on each side of your vest. Your overlap provides you side ballistic protection. If your overlap protection is uneven, re-adjust the vest and straps to provide an even amount of protection. Remember not to wear your vest too tight as it may limit your mobility and cause unnecessary wear and tear on the ballistic panels.

### INSERTING SPECIAL THREAT PLATES

Now that your vest is adjusted to your comfort level, feel free to add any additional armor accessories such as soft trauma inserts or special threat plates. Special threat plates are a great way to upgrade protection to your soft armor ballistic vest. Depending on the type of carrier you have you will either place these plates in an interior or an exterior pocket.

For a carrier with an exterior top-loading plate pocket, simply unhook the Velcro® Brand hook tab on the front of the carrier and insert the plate in front of the soft trauma insert.

For a carrier with an interior bottom-loading plate pocket, unzip the exterior hidden zipper located at the bottom of the carrier, then reach into the inside of the carrier and locate the pocket. Open the Velcro® Brand loop flap on the pocket and insert the plate in front of the soft trauma insert.

### STORING AND INSPECTING YOUR VEST

Proper storage and frequent inspection of your vest can help you maintain the life of your armor. The best way to store your vest is lying flat, not on an edge and NEVER bunched. Make sure it is stored clean, dry and out of direct sunlight. Do not place anything else on top of it and never store your vest in the backseat or trunk of your car. Regular inspection of your vest is also important for proper performance.

### CLEANING YOUR BODY ARMOR

Each component should be separated prior to cleaning. Be sure that the ballistic panels have been removed from your front and back carrier. To do this, disengage the suspension tabs located in the shoulder area of the vest. Finally, be sure all trauma plates and straps have also been removed from the carrier.

#### CONCEALABLE BODY ARMOR CLEANING GUIDELINES\*

PRODUCT	DAMP CLOTH	HAND WASH	MACHINE WASH
CONCEALABLE ARMOR PANEL	●		
CONCEALABLE ARMOR CARRIER		●	●
SOFT TRAUMA INSERT	●		
STRAP SYSTEM	●	●	
EXTERNAL OUTER CARRIER	●		
UNIFORM OUTER CARRIER		●	●

\*PREFERRED METHOD OF CARE  
NOTE: UNIFORM CARRIERS CAN ALSO BE DRY CLEANED

### BALLISTIC PANELS

To clean the ballistic panels, begin by laying them on a flat surface. Take a damp cloth or sponge and gently wipe the ballistic panels to remove dirt or stains. If necessary, you may choose to use a mild detergent. DO NOT bleach, iron, tape, machine wash or tumble dry your ballistic panels.

### CARRIER

1. To clean your carrier, **first remove all ballistic panels, trauma inserts and plates.**
2. Next, remove all shoulder and waist straps from the front and back carrier. The preferred method of washing the front and back carrier is to hand wash, however, your carriers may also be machine washed on the gentle cycle using cold water with a mild detergent.
3. To clean your shoulder and waist straps, take a damp cloth or sponge and gently wipe the straps to remove dirt or stains. If necessary, you may choose to use a mild detergent. Use the hook tabs to remove any debris from the Velcro® Brand attachment system.
4. When complete, lay flat to air dry or tumble dry using the lowest temperature setting. See chart for quick reference guide on care of each vest component.

**DO NOT** use bleach or fabric softener to clean your carriers. **DO NOT** dry clean your carrier (except for Uniform carriers, which may be dry cleaned). Likewise, **DO NOT** use deodorizing sprays such as Febreze or disinfectant sprays such as Lysol – these sprays can damage or compromise the carrier material. If carriers are machine washed with regular frequency there should not be a need for the use of these sprays.



## WARNINGS

**LIMITED IMPACT PROTECTION.** The Company's bullet resistant-vests are intended to reduce or prevent injuries from specific threats. Body armor is not bulletproof and cannot protect against all threats. Impact forces can result in serious injury or death.

**THIS BULLET-RESISTANT VEST CAN NOT PROTECT AGAINST ALL THREATS.** The wearer of this bullet-resistant vest is expressly informed that wearing such a vest does not release the wearer from undertaking appropriate self-protection measures when in a situation posing a threat.

**BALLISTIC PANELS CAN NOT PROTECT WHAT THEY DO NOT COVER.** Ballistic panels offer protection to only those areas that they cover. Ballistic panels do not protect the neck or any area it does not cover. Strenuous movements or physical altercations may cause ballistic panels to shift on the wearer's body thus affecting actual coverage. Substantial weight gain or loss, or changes in body shape or contour, can also cause previously protected areas to become exposed. If the wearer has experienced a substantial weight gain or loss, **HE/SHE SHOULD IMMEDIATELY TAKE THEIR VEST TO A CERTIFIED DEALER FOR AN INSPECTION. VESTS THAT DO NOT FIT PROPERLY MAY NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE VEST'S BALLISTIC PERFORMANCE. THE VEST MAY NEED TO BE ADJUSTED - OR REPLACED! PROPER FIT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE USEFUL LIFE OF A VEST.** Wearing the outer shell carrier WITHOUT the ballistic panels, provides NO ballistic protection!

**WEARING THE OUTER SHELL CARRIER WITHOUT THE BALLISTIC PANELS DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY PROTECTION.** Do not mix and match ballistic panels with carriers from different brands or manufacturers doing so may void the manufacturer's warranty.

If you have any further questions, you can contact your local Safariland Sales Representative or The Safariland Group Customer Service Department at **1-800-347-1200.**

At The Safariland Group, we live by our mission statement, Together, We Save Lives®.

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**THE COMPANY'S REMOVABLE OUTER SHELL CARRIER DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY BALLISTIC PROTECTION.** Wearing the outer shell carrier WITHOUT the ballistic panels, provides NO ballistic protection!

**BALLISTIC PANELS ARE DESIGNED TO DEFEAT CERTAIN THREATS ONLY IF PROPERLY INSERTED INTO THE FABRIC OUTER SHELL FACING IN THE CORRECT DIRECTION.** The materials in the ballistic panels are oriented to work in only one direction. The label permanently affixed to the panel indicates which side is the "BODY SIDE" - meaning the side that must face the body. Since ballistic panels generally are removable and it is possible to fit the panel into the carrier facing in the wrong direction, it is CRITICAL that the wearer ensure that the ballistic panels are properly inserted into the carrier in the proper direction. Failure to follow these instructions can result in serious injury or death.

**BALLISTIC PANELS MUST NOT BE USED IN ANOTHER MANUFACTURER'S REMOVABLE OUTER SHELL CARRIER OR IN ANY OTHER UNAUTHORIZED CONFIGURATION.** Ballistic panels are designed to perform with the removable outer shell carrier as a system. **INSERTING THE COMPANY'S BALLISTIC PANELS IN ANOTHER MANUFACTURER'S CARRIER AND/OR IN ANY OTHER UNAUTHORIZED CONFIGURATION MAY NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE VEST'S BALLISTIC COVERAGE AND/OR PERFORMANCE WHICH COULD LEAD TO SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**

**A BULLET-RESISTANT VEST WORKS BY DISSIPATING ENERGY ACROSS THE FIBERS OF THE VEST.** Should the vest be struck by a threat close to an edge, the vest's ability to dissipate the energy may be negatively impacted. Such an event may result in the vest not being able to defeat the threat.

**THE GREATER THE ANGLE AT WHICH A ROUND STRIKES THE VEST (OPPOSITE OF A "HEAD ON" SHOT), THE GREATER THE POSSIBILITY THE ROUND MAY RICOCHET OR SLIDE OFF THE SIDE OF THE VEST.** A ricochet may travel at a high rate of speed which could result in severe injury or death.

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**A MULTIPLE ROUND BURST STRIKING A VEST IN A TIGHT SHOT PATTERN MAY SUFFICIENTLY WEAKEN THAT AREA OF THE VEST AND RESULT IN A COMPLETE PENETRATION OF THE VEST.** Since a bullet-resistant vest is dependent upon the many layers of material working together to provide sufficient resistance to a threat, multiple rounds striking the vest in a tight shot pattern may result in a penetration of the vest causing severe injury or death.

**UNLESS THE BULLET-RESISTANT VEST MODEL SPECIFICALLY STATES OTHERWISE, THIS PRODUCT IS NOT WARRANTED TO DEFEAT CONTACT SHOTS, FRAGMENTATION, SPIKES, PICKS, KNIVES OR OTHER SHARP OBJECTS. THE COMPANY'S BULLET-RESISTANT VESTS ARE TESTED AGAINST SPECIFIC THREATS BASED ON NIJ COMPLIANCE TESTING CRITERIA.** Unless otherwise stated, this product has not been tested against non-NIJ compliant threats and is not warranted to defeat non-NIJ specified rounds.

Should the protective cover of the ballistic panel be broken, interrupted, or damaged in any way, **THE VEST SHOULD IMMEDIATELY BE TAKEN TO A CERTIFIED DEALER FOR INSPECTION.** Ballistic panels that are broken, interrupted or damaged may **NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE VEST'S BALLISTIC PERFORMANCE.**

**THE RESISTANCE AND PERFORMANCE OF BALLISTIC PANELS ARE KNOWN TO CHANGE WITH TIME AND WEAR, ESPECIALLY WHEN EXPOSED TO EXTREME ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS.** Body armor should not be stored in places where it is exposed to high temperatures and/or in combination with high humidity for long periods of time. Exposure to such extreme environmental conditions may negatively impact the vest's ballistic performance.

**FAILURE TO CLOSELY FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS AND THE WARNINGS CONTAINED IN THIS WARRANTY AND IN THE USE AND CARE MANUAL ACCOMPANYING THIS PRODUCT AUTOMATICALLY VOIDS THIS WARRANTY IN ALL RESPECTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO VOIDING ANY BALLISTIC WARRANTY, AND COULD LEAD TO SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**

## CONCLUSION

**REMEMBER, your vest is BULLET-RESISTANT, NOT BULLETPROOF.** It is designed to defeat certain rounds, but it will not protect you against all threats or any area that it does not cover.

**WEARING YOUR SHELL CARRIER WITHOUT THE BALLISTIC PANELS DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY PROTECTION.** Do not mix and match ballistic panels with carriers from different brands or manufacturers doing so may void the manufacturer's warranty.

If you have any further questions, you can contact your local Safariland Sales Representative or The Safariland Group Customer Service Department at **1-800-347-1200.**

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TOGETHER, WE SAVE LIVES®

## NIJ-06 WARRANTY

### EXPRESS LIMITED WARRANTY FOR SAFARILAND® FLEXIBLE BODY ARMOR VESTS CERTIFIED UNDER NIJ-0101.06

1. Safariland warrants that its “NIJ-06” flexible body armor vests (“Vests”) have been certified to comply with the National Institute of Justice’s (“NIJ”) Ballistic Resistance of Body Armor, NIJ Standard-0101.06 (July 2008), for the applicable NIJ threat level designated on each Vest’s label. For multi-threat (i.e., ballistic and stab resistant) Vests, Safariland also warrants that the Vests have been certified to comply with the NIJ’s Stab Resistance of Personal Body Armor, NIJ Standard-0115.00 (September 2000), for the applicable NIJ spike threat level designated on each Vest’s label.
2. For a period of sixty (60) months after the date of purchase, Safariland warrants that the ballistic panels of its Vests shall be free from defects in material and workmanship. Vests should not be worn or used after the expiration of this warranty period (i.e., “useful life” period).
3. For a period of twelve (12) months after the date of purchase, Safariland warrants that the outer carriers of its Vests shall be free from defects in material and workmanship.
4. Vests shall be always worn in accordance with Safariland’s Use & Care instructions and subject to the Warnings contained in the applicable User Manual included with each Vest. The above warranties do not apply to any Vest that has been subjected to misuse, abuse, accident, neglect, unauthorized alteration, breakage, interruption, damage, improper storage or handling, or unauthorized repair or service.

5. The above warranties are the sole and exclusive warranties made by Safariland with respect to its Vests. They shall not be enlarged by any representations, descriptions, course of dealing, trade usage, technical advice, service, samples, models, or otherwise, nor shall they be altered or expanded by any acts, statements, or agreements of any dealer, employee, or agent of Safariland (other than by a duly authorized officer of Safariland). **SAFARILAND MAKES NO OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESS, IMPLIED, OR STATUTORY; INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR MERCHANTABILITY.**

6. In the event that Safariland determines that a Vest (or component) is defective during an applicable warranty period, Safariland agrees to (at its election) replace, repair, or issue a pro-rated purchase price credit for such product. All returns shall be made to Safariland’s factory and must include (1) proof of issue/ purchase, and (2) documentation specifying the claimed defect and all relevant supporting information. A Return Authorization Number (RA) must be obtained from Safariland prior to returning the product.

**7. IN NO EVENT SHALL SAFARILAND BE LIABLE FOR ANY PUNITIVE, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, ANTICIPATED OR LOST PROFITS, INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, LOSS OF TIME, OR OTHER INDIRECT LOSSES OR EXPENSES THAT ARISE FROM ANY CAUSE RELATING TO ITS VESTS, REGARDLESS OF THE FORM OF THE ACTION, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY CONTRARY PROVISION, IN NO EVENT SHALL THE TOTAL LIABILITY OF SAFARILAND (TOGETHER WITH THE LIABILITY OF ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS) EXCEED THE PURCHASE PRICE ACTUALLY PAID FOR THE VEST THAT GIVES RISE TO SUCH LIABILITY.** The foregoing disclaimers are subject to any applicable laws that regulate product warranties.

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**CONGRATULATIONS!**

You are the proud user of Safariland Body Armor from a brand with more than 30 years’ experience in armor protection. Our NIJ-06 offerings are available in a wide range of sizes and configurations. Safariland takes pride in consistently exceeding customer expectations and ballistic standards with the most comprehensive offering of field proven armor products.



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