# Using Your PREPORA Kit: A Complete Getting-Started Guide

**The difference between a survival kit that saves your life and one that stays in the cupboard is knowing exactly what you have and how to use it before you ever need it.**

## Introduction

You've made a smart decision. The PREPORA Emergency Survival Backpack puts over 60 tools across four critical categories into a single, organised system designed to get you through the first 72 hours of any emergency. But a kit you haven't explored is a kit you can't rely on.

This guide walks you through every category in your pack, tells you what each item does, and gives you a clear activation routine for the moment an emergency strikes. Set aside 30 minutes to read this now — it may be the most valuable half hour you spend this year.

## What's Inside Your PREPORA Kit

Your kit is organised into four categories. Open your bag and locate the relevant compartments as you read through each one.

| Category | Key Items | Primary Function |
|---|---|---|
| **Emergency Tools** | Knife, fire starter, wire saw, rope, whistle, tactical pen | Mobility, cutting, fire, signalling |
| **Comfort & Shelter** | Food rations, water filter, purification tablets, blankets, poncho | Warmth, nutrition, hydration |
| **Tech & Communications** | 20,000 mAh power bank, AM/FM radio, rechargeable flashlight | Information, light, device charging |
| **First Aid** | Tourniquet, bandages, gloves, face masks, first aid manual | Trauma care, wound management |

### Emergency Tools

The backbone of your kit. Your 40-litre MOLLE tactical backpack carries the full system and can be grabbed and gone in under five minutes. Inside you'll find:

- **Folding Tactical Knife** — A heavy-duty locking blade for cutting rope, clearing debris, and preparing food. Keep it folded and stored safely; practice opening it before an emergency.
- **Magnesium Fire Starter** — Strikes at 3,000°C. Works in rain and wind. Shave a small pile of magnesium shavings from the rod, then strike the scraper to ignite them. Pair with the Fire-Starting Tinder Tube for guaranteed ignition.
- **Wire Saw** — 60 cm of flexible cutting wire that packs to nothing. Ideal for cutting branches to build an emergency shelter frame.
- **Credit Card Multi-Tool** — 11 functions in credit-card form. Includes a can opener, screwdriver, and ruler. Keep it in your wallet so it's always on your person, not just in the bag.
- **Emergency Whistle 3-in-1** — 120 dB signal audible at distance. Also contains a compass and thermometer. Three short blasts is the universal distress signal.
- **Braided Rope (3 m)** — High-tensile polyester for shelter lashing, securing loads, or improvised rescue.
- **Waterproof Duct Tape** — 10 metres of industrial-strength tape. Patch tents, seal windows, improvise a splint. One of the most versatile items in the kit.
- **Tactical Pen** — Aircraft-grade aluminium with a glass-breaker tip. Breaks a car window if you're trapped in a submerged or post-crash vehicle.
- **Survival Bracelet with Compass** — Worn on your wrist, this paracord bracelet unravels to 3 metres of emergency cordage and includes a compass, whistle, and fire starter bead.

### Comfort & Shelter

Staying warm, fed, and dry determines survival endurance. Key items:

- **Survival Ration Food Box** — 500 g of high-calorie emergency ration bars. Vegan, nut-free, five-year shelf life. No preparation required — eat straight from the pack. Designed to sustain two people for 72 hours.
- **Portable Personal Water Filter** — Filters up to 4,000 litres at 300 ml per minute. Drink directly from rivers, lakes, or puddles. This is your primary water supply if mains water is compromised.
- **Water Purification Tablets (×20)** — Two packs of chlorine tablets; each tablet purifies one litre. Use as backup to the filter, or when you need to treat water faster than the filter allows.
- **Extra-Large Emergency Blankets (×2)** — Oversized mylar retains up to 90% body heat. Also useful as a ground sheet, sun shade, or improvised water collector.
- **Raincoat (Poncho with Hood)** — Lightweight and waterproof. Wear during evacuation in heavy rain or use as a lean-to shelter by tying it between trees.
- **Emergency Candles (×2)** — 96 total burn hours of natural soy wax candles. Provide light and gentle warmth without draining your flashlight batteries.
- **Gas Lighter** — Refillable, windproof flame. The fastest way to light candles or start a tinder bundle.

### Tech & Communications

When the grid goes down, your ability to stay informed and stay charged determines your situational awareness.

- **Power Bank (20,000 mAh)** — Dual-output, fast-charge capable. Keep it pre-charged. In a 72-hour outage, it will fully charge a standard smartphone three to four times.
- **Portable AM/FM Radio** — Runs on two AA batteries (included). Emergency broadcasts and government evacuation orders come over the radio when cell towers are down.
- **Rechargeable LED Flashlight** — Three brightness modes and a strobe function. Use strobe to signal rescuers at night. The AA backup flashlight is a redundant second source of light.
- **AA Batteries (×4)** — Pre-loaded into the radio storage. Long shelf life. Replace annually.

### First Aid

Your kit contains a comprehensive 210+ piece first aid system. The key items to locate first:

- **Tourniquet** — Single-hand operation for severe limb bleeding. This is a life-saving item. Read the First Aid Protocols guide before you need it.
- **Triangular Bandage** — Multi-purpose: arm sling, wound cover, pressure dressing. Two uses: fold into a narrow strip for a pressure bandage, or keep full-width for a sling.
- **Butterfly Closures (×4)** — Close deep cuts without sutures by pulling wound edges together.
- **PVC Gloves** — Always put these on before treating anyone else's wound.
- **Face Masks (×2)** — Essential during fire evacuations, dust after an earthquake, or any air-quality emergency.
- **First Aid Manual** — Illustrated, laminated pages covering CPR, wound care, fractures, and shock. If you don't know what to do, read it first.

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## Setting Up Before an Emergency

Don't wait until a crisis to open your kit. Do this now.

1. **Unpack and inspect everything.** Lay all items out on a flat surface. Identify each item and match it to this guide. Confirm nothing is missing or damaged from shipping.
2. **Familiarise yourself with critical items.** Hold the fire starter and practice striking it. Open the tactical knife and close it. Thread the water filter into a glass of tap water. Muscle memory matters when you're stressed.
3. **Charge the power bank fully.** Plug it in today. Set a recurring reminder every three months to top it up — a depleted power bank is useless.
4. **Choose your storage location.** Store the kit somewhere accessible — not at the back of a high shelf. The ideal location is near your home's main exit, in a ground-floor cupboard, or in your vehicle boot.
5. **Tell every household member where the kit is.** Run a five-minute walk-through with your family. Show them the whistle, the flashlight, and the first aid bag location.
6. **Register a check-up date.** Put a note on the calendar for six months from now to check battery levels, replace water tablets if opened, and refresh the food rations as their dates approach.

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## Your First 15 Minutes in an Emergency

When something goes wrong, the kit gives you a clear priority sequence.

1 **Grab the bag**
— accessible within 30 seconds. Add only personal medications not already in the kit.

2 **Assess before moving**
— power outage indoors? Stay and shelter. Flood warning? Move to high ground. The scenario determines your next action.

3 **Switch on the radio**
— tune to your local AM/FM emergency frequency. More reliable than data when cell towers are overloaded.

4 **Account for everyone**
— headcount all household members. Assign pre-agreed roles (see the Family Preparedness Plan guide).

5 **Establish light**
— activate the flashlight immediately if dark or power is out. Light reduces panic, especially with children.

6 **Secure water**
— if mains may be compromised, fill containers from the tap now before pressure drops. Your filter and tablets are the backup supply.

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## Maintenance and Readiness

A survival kit is only as good as its last maintenance check. Schedule these tasks:

| Interval | Task |
|---|---|
| **Every 3 months** | Recharge power bank to 100%. Check AA battery levels in the radio. |
| **Every 6 months** | Unpack and inspect all items for damage. Confirm food ration expiry dates. |
| **Every 12 months** | Replace opened water purification tablet packs. Replace used candles. Replenish consumed first aid items. |
| **After any use** | Replace anything consumed or depleted immediately — a partially used kit is a reduced kit. |

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## Key Takeaways

- Unpack and explore your kit the day it arrives — familiarity with your tools is as important as having them.
- Your four categories are Emergency Tools, Comfort & Shelter, Tech & Communications, and First Aid; each serves a distinct survival function.
- The power bank must be pre-charged and topped up every three months to be effective during a blackout.
- Regular six-monthly maintenance checks ensure every item is ready when a real emergency demands it.

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> ***Your kit is only as powerful as your preparation.*** *The 30 minutes you spend with it today can make the difference between a managed emergency and a crisis.*

*Part of the PREPORA Survival Guide series. Download the full guide at prepora-gear.com/guides.*