



Hyde Park[®]

ENVIRONMENTAL

Quick Guide:

Spill Kits

Compliance Guidelines - England

What is a Spill Kit?

A spill kit is a collection of absorbent materials and tools designed to quickly contain, control and clean up accidental liquid spills.

Spill kits are commonly used in environments where oil, fuels, chemicals or other hazardous liquids are stored or handled.

The primary purpose of a spill kit is to:

- Prevent spills from spreading
- Protect drains, watercourses and soil
- Reduce environmental damage
- Help businesses respond quickly to incidents

Different spill kits are designed for different spill types, such as oil, chemicals or general workplace liquids.

The Legal Framework (England)

Spill kits are not usually mandated as a specific product but they form an important part of **environmental risk management** and **pollution prevention duties**.

In England, spill preparedness is influenced by legislation including:

- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Water Resources Act 1991
- Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001

Regulatory oversight may involve:

- Environment Agency
- Local authorities
- Site environmental permit conditions

Spill kits are therefore considered best practice and often essential for compliance with pollution prevention duties.

Which Spill Kit is Right for your Workplace?

Absorbency Litres	Cushion	Pad	Sock	Roll	Drain Plug	Caution Tape	Disposable Bag			
20L	-	10	2	-	1	-	1	✓	✓	✓
35L	-	15	2	-	1	-	1	✓	✓	✓
40L	2	150	8	-	1	-	3			✓
45L	-	25	2	-	1	-	1	✓	✓	✓
90L	-	60	4	-	1	-	3	✓	✓	✓
120L	-	45	6	-	1	-	3			✓
125L	2	50	5	-	1	1	3	✓	✓	✓
210L	-	150	8	-	1	-	8	✓	✓	✓
210L	8	100	20	1	1	-	5	✓	✓	
210L	10	150	10	1	1	-	6			✓
255L	5	140	6	-	1	1	6	✓	✓	✓
255L	10	150	10	-	1	1	6	✓	✓	✓
350L	10	150	10	-	1	1	6		✓	✓
800L	10	250	25	2	1	1	10	✓	✓	✓
1100L	20	250	30	3	2	1	12	✓	✓	✓

The correct spill kit depends on:

- The type of liquid
- The volume stored
- The risk of spills
- The location of the hazard

Example:

If a 200L drum of hydraulic oil is stored in a workshop, an oil-only spill kit should be located nearby so staff can contain the spill before it reaches floor drains or exits the building.

Spill kits should always be easily accessible and clearly identified.

Inspection & Maintenance

Businesses have an ongoing responsibility to ensure spill response equipment remains usable.

Good practice includes:

- Regular visual inspections
- Replacing used absorbents
- Checking kits remain fully stocked
- Ensuring containers remain clearly labelled
- Confirming kits are still accessible

A spill kit that is empty, damaged or difficult to locate may significantly delay spill response and increase environmental risk.

SPILL KIT CHECKLIST

- ☐ *Are your spill kits clearly labelled and easy to identify?*
- ☐ *Is the instructions & contents card present and readable?*
- ☐ *Is the spill kit appropriate for the type of liquids handled?*
- ☐ *Are your spill kits inspected regularly and staff trained?*

Why Choose Hyde Park Environmental?

Spills involving oils, fuels or chemicals can quickly lead to environmental damage, operational disruption, and potential regulatory action if they are not managed effectively. Our team works with businesses across a wide range of sectors to ensure they have the right equipment, guidance and preparedness measures in place.

Our spill response solutions include:

- Industry-specific spill kits designed for oil, chemical or general liquid spills
- Spill control and containment equipment, such as drip trays, bund pallets and drain protection
- Expert guidance on spill preparedness, storage practices and pollution prevention

We understand that every site is different. That's why we work with clients to help identify potential spill risks and suitable response solutions for their specific environment, storage arrangements and operational activities.

Hyde Park Environmental can help ensure your site is equipped to respond quickly, minimise environmental impact and support responsible environmental management.

Straightforward expertise. Protecting your reputation.



When Are Spill Kits Needed?

While legislation focuses on preventing pollution, spill kits are widely used to support compliance and emergency response.

Spill kits are strongly recommended where:

- Oils, fuels or chemicals are stored
- Liquids are transferred or dispensed
- Containers may leak or be damaged
- Spills could reach drains or watercourses

Common liquids requiring spill preparedness include:

- Diesel
- Petrol
- Heating oil
- Waste oil
- Chemicals and solvents

Spill Kit Placement & Workplace Expectations.

Simply owning a spill kit does not guarantee an effective spill response.

Businesses should ensure spill kits are:

- Located close to high-risk storage areas
- Clearly labelled and easy to access
- Appropriate for the type of liquid stored
- Large enough to handle potential spills

Good practice includes:

- Positioning kits near drums, tanks and transfer points
- Providing drain protection where needed
- Ensuring staff know how to use the equipment

Important Note

This guide provides a high-level overview of spill kit expectations and related environmental protection practices in England.

Specific sites may be subject to additional legal or operational requirements depending on:

- Environmental permits
- Planning conditions
- Fire safety regulations
- Local authority requirements
- Internal environmental management systems

Businesses should review relevant legislation or seek professional advice to confirm compliance for their specific operations and risk profile.

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