



Operation Helmet



Helmet Pad Kit Fact Sheet

What is Operation Helmet?

Founded in 2004 by Dr. Robert H. Meaders whose grandson is an active duty Marine in Iraq, Operation Helmet is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing safer helmet pad upgrade kits to the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

To date, more than 25,000 kits have been shipped to the troops in the field.

What is a Helmet Pad Kit?

Many of today's helmets – particularly those worn by the Marines – are designed to protect them from gunfire and flying debris. They are effective, but are uncomfortable and offer little or no protection from concussion-causing blasts. The helmet pad upgrade kits make a good helmet significantly better.

Why are the upgrade kits needed?

The helmets currently in use by the Marines have only fair protection from blast forces and fragment impacts from Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and other types of newly appreciated combat dangers.

A shock-absorbing pad suspension system is far superior in providing helmet/cranium separation ('standoff') and protection from blast waves and fragments.

How much is an upgrade kit?

The shock-absorbing pad systems are available commercially for \$70-\$100 depending on the manufacturer.

99.9 percent of donations go to the purchase and shipment of pad kits to troops in the field.

How does the helmet pad kit work?

The kit is installed without modifications to the helmet but changes the current unstable suspension system to a shock-absorbing pad suspension system with a stronger chin and nape strap.

The pad suspension system suspends the helmet on impact resistant highly engineered pads to provide 'standoff,' comfort, and stability. The helmet does not contact the skull directly, with the pads absorbing and spreading out the impact from the blow.

This upgrade prevents or cushions the trooper's head from blast/fragment impact, spreads contact over a wider area and can save lives and prevent disability.

Available upgrade kits

www.skydex.com
www.oregonaero.com
www.gentex.com

Contact information

Operation Helmet
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To donate, email ophelm@operation-helmet.org