

SMALL CUT FIRST AID

Clean, protect, and know when to get help.



YOUR BUILD MAP

- CHECK + PRESS / PAGE 2
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- QUICK REFERENCE / PAGE 4

Keep this guide offline. Tap the links or use printed page numbers.

SETUP / HAVE THESE READY

Have drinking-quality running water or bottled water, clean gauze, a clean dressing, soap for handwashing, and medical closure strips if suitable. Use sterile labeled wound-contact products when available; keep packaging sealed and dry until use. Check package integrity and expiry. The cartoon packaging does not establish sterility.

SCOPE / SMALL CUTS ONLY

For tiny, clean, superficial cuts only. This guide does not teach suturing, needle sterilization, homemade saline, or closure of serious wounds. It cannot examine a wound or replace medical assessment.

FREE COMPLETE GUIDE / More at nuclearnighthawk.com/builds

SOURCES / Merck Manual: cuts, scrapes and wounds (May 2026) · CDC: sterilizing practices and process verification

WHEN HELP COMES FIRST

Heavy, spurting, rapidly flowing bleeding, faintness, or bleeding you cannot control: call emergency services immediately (911 in the US/Canada; 999 or 112 in the UK). Apply firm pressure while help is arranged. Do not delay urgent bleeding control to collect equipment or wash your hands.

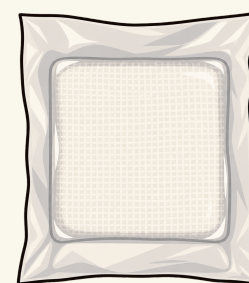
STEP 01 / CHECK THE WOUND

Seek medical care for a deep, gaping, punctured, bitten, or persistently dirty wound; an embedded object; numbness; or impaired movement. A small surface opening can hide a deeper injury. Do not seal these wounds with strips. Wounds on the face or near an eye, or uncertainty about depth, also need professional advice.

If diabetes, poor circulation, blood-thinning medicine, or reduced immunity may affect healing, contact a healthcare professional. A strip cannot inspect a tendon or remove hidden dirt.

STEP 02 / STOP THE BLEEDING

For a small cut, wash your hands, then use clean gauze or a clean cloth to apply firm pressure for at least five uninterrupted minutes. Do not keep lifting the pad to check. If bleeding continues, maintain pressure and get medical help; use emergency services for heavy or uncontrolled bleeding.



Do not pull out an embedded object or press on it. Apply pressure around it and seek urgent care. Do not proceed to closure while bleeding continues.

STEP 03 / RINSE

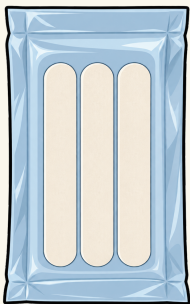
Once bleeding is controlled, rinse the small wound thoroughly with drinking-quality running water or bottled water, or use commercially prepared sterile saline. If dirt remains or something appears embedded, get medical help instead of probing the wound.

Do not pour moonshine, rubbing alcohol, peroxide, or other harsh antiseptics into the cut. They may damage healing tissue. Homemade saltwater is not guaranteed sterile. No salt-mixing recipe or raw-water treatment method is provided here.



STEP 04 / PROTECT

A clean dressing is often enough for a tiny cut. Medical closure strips may support a very small, clean, shallow cut whose edges meet easily after bleeding stops. Use only a product labeled for wound closure and follow its packet for application, wear, and removal. Do not force the edges together or bridge a deep or gaping wound.



Cover with an appropriate clean dressing and follow the product instructions. Avoid ointment underneath adhesive strips. Keep the dressing clean; replace it if dirty or wet, following any wound-care advice. Watch for worsening pain, redness, warmth, swelling, pus, or fever and seek prompt medical care.



SOURCES / AHA / American Red Cross: 2024 first-aid guidelines · Merck Manual: cuts, scrapes and wounds (May 2026) · NHS: cuts and grazes

QUICK REFERENCE

- 01 CHECK - Serious, dirty, bitten, punctured, numb, or movement impaired? Get medical care; do not close it. (Page 2)
- 02 PRESS - Firm uninterrupted pressure for at least five minutes for a small cut. Continued bleeding needs help; severe bleeding is an emergency. (Page 2)
- 03 RINSE - Drinking-quality water or commercially prepared sterile saline. No alcohol or homemade sterility claim. (Page 3)
- 04 PROTECT - Clean dressing; suitable medical strips only per packet. Never force closure. Watch for infection. (Page 3)

TETANUS / CHECK YOUR PROTECTION

Ask a healthcare professional to check tetanus protection, especially after a puncture, dirty wound, or uncertain vaccine history. Vaccine and immune-globulin decisions depend on the wound and previous doses; this guide cannot determine them. Cleaning does not replace vaccination.

CLEAN DOES NOT MEAN STERILE

Clean is not the same as sterile. A needle heated over a flame is not a verified sterile surgical device, and a household sewing kit is not a substitute for clinical wound care. Drinking water is appropriate for rinsing minor wounds; that does not make it sterile or suitable for injection.

PRIMARY GUIDANCE / CHECKED SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

- Merck Manual: cuts, scrapes and wounds (May 2026)
- AHA / American Red Cross: 2024 first-aid guidelines
- NHS: cuts and grazes
- CDC: wound management to prevent tetanus
- CDC: sterilizing practices and process verification
- American College of Surgeons: wound home care

Educational source review; no clinician certification or physical procedure test claimed.

SOURCES / CDC: wound management to prevent tetanus · CDC: sterilizing practices and process verification