

## How to Buy Armor

This may seem like something that doesn't need to be written about because the potential customers on our website know what armor they want, right? While that could be true, it's important to purchase the armor you **NEED** - not simply what you **WANT** - when it comes to a life saving product.

While the armor you **WANT** and **NEED** may eventually be one in the same, we want to make sure you reach the right conclusion.

Here are some of the questions and considerations you need to ask yourself when purchasing armor.

### **1. What common rounds am I most concerned about in my city, county or neighborhood?**

This can vary greatly depending on which part of the country you live and work in. Many inner cities will likely be flush with common handgun and .556 rounds, while in rural areas, it's more common to encounter large caliber rifle rounds.

### **2. Will the weight of the plates I purchase allow me to be mobile enough to perform my task?**

This is another critical question. Not all of us are built like Atlas with the ability to carry the weight of the world on our shoulders, while still maintaining the ability to do our job.

As a law enforcement officer or member of the armed services, you already have enough weight on your belt and rig. Do you want to be weighed down just because the heaviest plate can stop the largest rounds? Or could it be beneficial to wear lighter plates, to minimize the weight of your rig, while still maintaining the ability to defeat some of the most common rifle rounds?

### **3. Why is there such a wide range of cost for hard armor plates?**

Here's a general rule of thumb on the price of plates: the heavier the plate is, the lower the cost will be. The lighter the plate is, the higher the cost will be.

Level IV plates are typically the heaviest level of armor plate due to ceramic strike face. The ceramic strike face is important because it breaks apart the rifle round, allowing the polyethylene behind it to act like a catchers mitt to catch the slug and leftover fragments, as well as disperse the remaining energy from the force and speed of the round. Ceramic plays a vital part in defeating rifle rounds that possess steel core or other armor piercing capabilities.

Level III, IIIa and SRT plates are lighter because they're strictly made from a ultra high molecular weight polyethylene. No ceramic is included, which results in a lighter weight

plate.

Please refer to our BALLISTICS CHART to see how each level of plate stacks up against a variety of common handgun and rifle rounds.

### **Conclusion**

BALLISTICS. WEIGHT. COST. Those are the main considerations to make when purchasing armor. However, only two of those three factors typically line up. So you need to figure out what's most important to you.

If you want the best ballistics at the lowest weight possible, then your plate will cost more.

If you want a plate at the lowest cost plate, but the highest grade of ballistics, it's going to be a heavier plate.

It's important to make the right decision when purchase a life-saving product like body armor. If you have any questions about our armor and what armor is right for you, please email [info@rmadefense.com](mailto:info@rmadefense.com) or call us at 866-978-7103. We're more than happy to assist you on your potential purchase.

Stay Safe!