

The equipment used and carried by law enforcement professionals is a far cry different today than what it was in the 1980s, 1990s and even, in many places, the 2000s+. At the beginning of your Chief's or Sheriff's career, he or she may have been carrying a revolver, a wooden baton, a BIG and heavy portable radio, mace and handcuffs (in the middle of their back). Even back then, with as seemingly little as they had to carry on their duty belt, some folks had more room or "landscape" than others to put that gear. The smaller folks had a crammed belt. The larger folks had more space.

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The list of equipment an officer must carry today is far more extensive. It may include: Sidearm Spare magazines for same EMD weapon (TASER) Expandable baton OC/Mace/Other chemical weapon Handcuffs Radio with connected microphone/speaker Flashlight Body worn Camera Trauma care kit ("Blow out kit") Tourniquet (Standardized placement/carry location recommended) Gloves: isolation and puncture protection Narcan/Naloxone OD salvation kit

• Additionally, today's officers may either be carrying, or be prepared to carry on little/no notice, the following: • Hard armor plates • Spare rifle magazines • Rifle • Additional trauma care supplies • Other Personal Protective Gear • Protective mask (gas mask) • Protective eyewear

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• Where does an officer put all that gear? • One of the most important lessons learned in the past half-century, for the long-term health and well-being of officers, is NOT to put anything on the back of the duty belt. Having hard items there and sitting against them in a patrol vehicle for hours at a time inevitably leads to lower back issues that range from simple muscle pain to growing scoliosis. That guiding rule decreases duty belt "landscape" by 1/3 or more. • Another important lesson: Keep the sidearm and EMD weapon in radically different places and positions. Make it near impossible to mistake a sidearm for a TASER.

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Other considerations: Trauma care supplies and tourniquets should, as much as possible, have standard placement agency-wide. This allows for fast access in emergency situations when being provided care to self or by others. Redundancy is good if space allows: Le. flashlight. Having a good quality light on your vest and then another on your belt can be a blessing. "Two is one; one is none," is a phrase often heard. How many spare magazines you carry, and for what weapons, is up to you within department guidelines. How many pair of handcuffs and/or flexicuffs you carry is up to you. Don't get too enamored with being overly prepared. Everything you carry has weight and you never know when you'll have to run, how far, how fast, wearing all of it.

Electronics Beyond the Radio	
 The electronics you wear all need maintenance and careful placement. 	
 Radio: You need to be able to manipulate it for volume and channel, not to mention an emergency button. It needs to be out of the way but within reach and visibility if necessary. 	
 Body-worn camera: this needs to be placed so that it sees what you see as much as possible. Be aware of what direction it faces as you engage with citizens, suspects and dynamic situations. 	
EMD: Electronic Muscular Disruptor (the terminology changes regularly) or TASER type weapon. This requires maintenance in checking charge, downloading info, etc. It is imperative that this be placed so that it CAN NOT be mistaken for your sidearm under stress.	
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All Use of Force Tools • Not including all force options normally on a continuum, but only those hard tools normally carried. • Chemical weapon / OC spray / mace • Impact weapons / baton • Electro Muscular Disruptor / EMD / TASER • Bola Wrap • Handcuffs? • Sidearm





Where To Put It All: Gunbelt

- Sidearm: strong side, on or just forward of hip
- Spare magazines: support side, front, immediately beside buckle
- Expandable Baton: Behind sidearm but NOT hindering draw OR
- Crossdraw on support side on or immediately in front of hip
- Chemical weapon: strong side between buckle and sidearm
- Handcuffs: strong side between buckle and sidearm OR Support side between magazine pouch and collapsible baton
- Flashlight: (1 of 2) on support side



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Where To Put It All: Gunbelt

- Radio: On support side
- EMD: If it has to be carried on the belt,
 - crossdraw on the support side ORSupport side carry and draw
- Tourniquet: Anywhere it fits except small of back
- Nitrile gloves: two pair in a soft (p)leather or nylon pouch. This is the only item soft enough to potentially be carried in the small of the back. Still not recommended. Offset to either side behind a hip where it fits.









Where To Put It All: Thigh Platforms
 When authorized, thigh platforms add additional carrying space.
Items that are ideal for placing on a support side thigh platform are:
• EMD weapon / TASER
Trauma care kit
Spare magazines for patrol rifle
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• If a thigh platform for strong side is authorized, it can be used to
relocate the duty sidearm and a spare magazine (or two), or it can be
used to carry other items such as chemical weapon/OC/Mace or
trauma care kit
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Where To Put It All: Vest The body worn camera is going to be carried center of chest either on the uniform shirt or on the vest. Moving the radio to the vest, usually support side, makes more space on the duty belt Moving the tourniquet to the vest makes more space on the duty belt Trauma Care Kit: usually on the strong side to be accessed when need for duty sidearm is minimal. Narcan/Naloxone OD salvation kit

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• Flashlight: (2 of 2) • EMD weapon/TASER: carried for crossdraw, center to left side of vest • Spare magazines: either for patrol rifle or duty sidearm. • NOTE: If carrying duty sidearm magazines on the vest, they should be IN ADDITION to spare magazines on the duty belt. You should never be putting on your duty weapon without having spare magazines on the same platform.





Personal Your Body There is a plethora of other equipment that is often needed during a tour of duty. A very short list follows. Consider where you would store/carry these items. Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) Fire Extinguisher Rain gear (coat, hat, boots) Shotgun Patrol Rifle Breaching tool(s)

Trunk/Storage Area or Passenger Compartment?
 The items on the previous slide can be carried and secured in an assortment of ways and places.
 Make sure you have immediate access to those items you made need in a compressed time frame, i.e. patrol rifle or AED
 Carrying backups of your primary equipment is always a good idea. Having extra tourniquets, trauma supplies, nitrile gloves, batteries for flashlights, etc. is a good idea.
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