



# SAFETY ALERT



Alert: First Aid Kit - Safety Alert 028  
Subject: Working From Home

**Distribution:** Red Insight team, social media, and current clients

**Reference Number:** Safety Alert 028

Although this incident was not directly work related, it does highlight the importance of having an appropriate, fully stocked, inspected First Aid Kit at home where many of us work. Thankfully I had recently completed a "Working from Home Inspection" checklist" which propelled me to stock up my First Aid Kit.

**Description of incident or hazard:** While preparing to bake cookies, my 11 yr. old daughter put her finger into the blade end of the stick blender while her right hand turned on the blade. Thankfully we had a Steri-Strip bandages and plenty of gauze in our first aid kit. Were able to secure the tip of the finger enough to get her to a hospital. Despite the severity, she only cut through one nerve and after surgery she should make a full recovery. The blade was actually damaged from the incident as you can see in the photo.

**History:** Our daughter is used to baking with a Thermomix; however, this time she decided to use a recently purchased stick blender.

**Extent of impact:**

A 26 hour trip to the hospital and surgery to repair the finger.

**Immediate action taken (or to be taken) to eliminate or control the risk:**

We applied massive pressure on the tip of the finger and put a Steri-Strip bandage lengthwise to keep the tip of the finger together and over that we used a mound of gauze to keep help keep the area clean.



**Acutal Stick Mixer/Blender**

When working with any type of equipment, including ones found in your kitchen (whether this it at home or at work), incidents are always potential. Keeping an appropriate, fully stocked and well maintained First Aid Kit on hand is essential in all work environments. It's important to have the appropriate training, facilities & processes to response to any situation that may arise. There are somethings to consider: blood loss happens quicker than you think, kids can be unpredictable, and as per the Code of Practice – Managing First Aid in the Workplace it is essential all workplaces. You must have appropriate First Aid Facilities for the work environment & industry, taking into account any pre-existing medical conditions the workforce may have.

In emergency situations every second counts and first aid response is crucial to prevent future complications such as infection.

Be proactive, plan ahead, asses the risks, and ensure you & your workers are prepared, trained, and equipped to respond to any incidents that may occur.

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