

Other uses of selective EDC items:

Larger, unhinged tin (contents can be dumped into the pouch in an emergency): Use both parts to dig (if too dangerous to use only hands and nothing else is available); catch water unattended in different places (eg, leaking pipes); bang together to make noise

Orange duct tape: Tag items to see them better if dropped; might be helpful if taped on jacket at night for others to see you better

Wide, strong rubber bands: Hold bandages in place if not too tight; wrap around pants bottoms to make walking/running/climbing safer

Face mask: Protect face from cold

Paracord: Make a belt, sling, tourniquet, headband to hold photon light clip; help with climbing or descending (not rappelling) large piles of dirt or debris by slinging around pipes/beams (can be gutted and made longer for this--would probably need to protect hands from being cut if innards were used)

Bandanna: Cut or use whole for large wounds; sop up water; use as headband for photon light clip; tourniquet; face mask for dust/smoke; face mask for cold weather; eye patch

Platypus repair patches: Create makeshift Band-Aid more easily than with duct tape

Light-weight face mask: Filter dusty water; protect face from cold; bandage

Ballpoint pen refill: Cartridge is metal and pretty strong...could be useful

Magnesium firestarter: Striker could be used as a blade for soft materials (plaster, grouting); won't accidentally create a flame in areas that might have gas leaks. Bics and Spark-Lites are just too easy to use; **if you've had a concussion and don't even remember what an EDC is, it's unlikely you'll be trying to figure out what a firestarter is**, but flicking a Bic or Spart-Lite accidentally would be too easy and too dangerous. It's only in the kit on the off-chance of ending up in a place with no shelter and no one around with a match or a lighter, which is unlikely

Sterile pads: Could only fit 2"x2", but if the wound is big, a 2"x3 or 3"x3" won't matter much anyway. Bandanna and clothes can be fashioned into bandages--even if they aren't sterile

Dentemp: Might be able to use it as a weak, temporary glue (to hold something together for a few minutes until you secure it with duct tape or paracord)

Large rubber band: Use as headband for photon light clip; hold bandage in place; hold emergency rain poncho hood in place

Emergency rain poncho: Catch water; use as shelter or tarp; cut to use as barrier if attending others with wounds; cut to create "booties" for wading through water (maybe duct tape on bottom and inside would keep it from skidding)