Each kit for 10 surface wipe samples contains:

* Polystyrene sample tube & cap for transporting each wipe to HSE for extraction and analysis.
* Plastic clams for protecting the sample tubes during transportation
* 10 semi-circular pure cotton wipe, each in a plastic minigrip bag to prevent contamination \*\*
* 10 vial(s) of 0.4 mls of extraction buffer in a minigrip bag \*\*\*
* 10cm x 10cm disposable masks (10) for defining an area of sampling on flat surfaces
* A pair of disposable gloves to protect the individual while wiping the surface
* An EM2 for the sample details and a “How to pay form”
* Packaging for the return of the collected samples that meets regulations for returning samples by post or courier \*\*\*\*

*\*\*The batch wipes have been pre-tested for allergen content*

*\*\*\*Extraction buffer is non-toxic, consisting of phosphate buffered saline, 0.1% Tween 20 and 0.05% Proclin 300 as preservative. If the kit is not to be used within a week, we recommend frozen storage of the buffer vials. The shelf life refrigerated is 12 months*

*\*\*\*\* Capped sample tubes will be supplied in the transport packaging to ensure their integrity. Please ensure you return the tubes containing wipes in the transport packaging.*

***Do not open the test kit until ready to sample to ensure that it is not inadvertently contaminated.***

* Decide on the areas to be sampled, put on the disposable gloves and place the 10x10cm disposable mask on the required area. For flat surfaces, pour the supplied extraction buffer into middle of the masked area. For other surfaces (i.e. computer keyboards), pour the buffer directly onto the wipe and allow this to absorb before wiping the surface.
* Wipe the surface within the mask thoroughly. Ensure that the wipe is turned over and both sides are used. The surface should appear dry after wiping. Do not press the wipe too hard, as this can push liquid back onto the surface.
* Place each cotton wipe into a polystyrene tube and ensure that cap is sealed tightly
* Add your sample code to each tube.
* Complete the EM2 form detailing your sample codes, the site of sampling and other associated sampling, contextual information. If you do not sample the entire 10cm x 10cm frame please specify the area sampled. Complete the “How to pay form”
* Send the collected surface wipe sample to the laboratory in the packaging/transport box provided as soon as possible using first class post, data post, or courier services. There is no need to add additional cooling bags etc for transportation if sent from within the UK.
* If you are sending samples from outside of the UK, please contact the lab prior to returning samples.
* We recommend that for delays of less than 5 days between collection and dispatch keep samples refrigerated, for longer periods keep in a freezer.
* There is no postal delivery to HSE Buxton at the weekends or public holidays, please try and ensure that samples will arrive at HSE during the working week

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