

Mines & unexploded ordnance

ACTION CHECKLIST

Do not approach, touch, move, collect or attempt to dismantle a suspicious object, munition or wire. Keep other people away from a safe position. Avoid abandoned positions, disturbed ground and routes that have not been assessed after fighting. Report only through a safe verified channel; do not enter a hazardous area to identify an object.

[] Stop approaching

Do not move closer to inspect, photograph or identify the object. Small fragments and abandoned everyday objects can conceal explosive hazards.

[] Keep others away

Warn people from where you are safe. Keep children and animals away without crossing suspect ground. Do not place a marker beside the object.

[] Avoid uncertain routes

Stay out of abandoned military sites and recently fought-over or marked hazardous areas. A road, field or house that was once safe may no longer be.

[] Share the location safely

From a safe place, describe the general location to verified demining, humanitarian or emergency contacts. Do not broadcast a precise route that invites others to approach.

[] Do not attempt a rescue into suspect ground

Call specialist help when reachable. Entering a suspected mined area can create additional casualties; do not improvise a clearance or dismantling method.

WATCH FOR

Never burn, bury, throw, transport or disturb an object. This guide cannot determine a safe distance or a safe escape path through mined ground.

IF HELP IS UNAVAILABLE

If no qualified contact answers, keep the area avoided and warn trusted people from a safe location. Do not treat the lack of an official sign or report as proof that it is safe.

Updated 2026-10-02 | Civilian educational guidance. Seek qualified help when reachable and safe; do not delay immediate protective action.

Full guide: <https://ospreyzero.com/emergencies/unexploded-ordnance/>

ICRC · Weapon contamination