

FIELD MANUAL AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Rothco Reversible 3/4 Length Rain Parka

PREPARED BY

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CLASSIFICATION

Tier 1

No training required

CATEGORY

Rain Coats

Personal weather protection

1. Capability Summary

The Rothco Reversible 3/4 Length Rain Parka is a two-sided, water-resistant outer layer designed to deliver extended-coverage rain protection and a selectable visibility profile for personnel working through wet conditions in low-threat environments.

Construction pairs a taffeta polyester outer shell with an inner layer of 70% PVC and 30% rubber, a combination intended to repel light to moderate rain across an extended shift. The 3/4 length extends coverage well below the waistline, protecting the hip and upper leg area that a short shell leaves exposed. Two large flap pockets on each side carry credentials, gloves, and small tools, and remain available regardless of which face is worn outward.

The reversible construction delivers two operational configurations in a single garment. The Black / Olive Drab version reverses between a subdued black face and an olive drab face. The Navy Blue / Yellow version reverses between navy and a higher contrast yellow face for situations where being seen matters more than holding a low profile. An adjustable drawstring hood, snap-button wrist cuffs, and underarm air vents allow the wearer to tune closure and airflow as conditions change across a shift.

2. Operational Limitations

READ BEFORE DEPLOYMENT

This parka is water resistant and not waterproof. It carries no taped seams, no sealed membrane, and no hydrostatic rating, and it should not be relied on for sustained heavy rain or immersion.

The yellow face is not certified to ANSI/ISEA 107 and carries no retroreflective striping. It must never be substituted for a rated high-visibility garment in roadway, highway, or DOT work zones.

The parka provides no ballistic, cut, thermal, or flame-resistant protection. The PVC and rubber inner layer retains heat, which presents a heat stress consideration during sustained exertion in warm conditions.

3. Specifications

Outer shell	Taffeta polyester
Inner layer	70% PVC / 30% rubber
Water resistance	Water resistant, not waterproof
Length	3/4 length
Design	Fully reversible, two wearable faces
Hood	Adjustable drawstring
Cuffs	Snap button
Ventilation	Underarm air vents
Pockets	Two large flap pockets per side
Colorways	Black / Olive Drab, Navy Blue / Yellow
Sizes	S to 2XL (Black / Olive Drab), S to 3XL (Navy Blue / Yellow)

4. Standard Operating Procedure

- 1 PRE-USE INSPECTION**

Inspect both faces of the shell for punctures, cracking, or seam separation, paying particular attention to pocket corners and the underarm vent openings. A pinhole in the PVC layer becomes a leak path under sustained rain and will not self-seal.
- 2 CONFIGURATION SELECTION**

Decide which face goes outward before donning. Select the subdued face for low-profile work and the higher contrast face when being seen by a crowd, a driver, or a teammate matters more. Reversing mid-shift in active rain exposes the dry interior to weather, so make the call up front.
- 3 POCKET LOAD PLANNING**

Load only the pockets on the face that will be worn outward. Items left in the opposing side's pockets become inaccessible once the parka is reversed and are easily lost during the change.
- 4 DONNING AND HOOD ADJUSTMENT**

Pull the parka on over the uniform or work layer and confirm the shoulders sit square with no lateral cant. Draw the hood cord to frame the face without restricting peripheral vision, and remain aware that a cinched hood reduces hearing and side awareness.

5 CUFF AND VENT SETTING

Fasten the snap cuffs over glove gauntlets to shed water away from the hand, or under them to seal the wrist, depending on the task. Keep the underarm vents clear of pack straps and duty belt hardware so the airflow path stays open.

6 LAYERING FOR TEMPERATURE

The PVC and rubber inner layer holds heat and does not breathe the way a membrane shell does. Reduce insulating layers underneath relative to what you would wear with a breathable jacket, and monitor for heat buildup during exertion.

7 IN-SHIFT MOISTURE MANAGEMENT

Expect interior condensation during sustained wear. Vent during breaks under cover by loosening the hood and cuffs rather than waiting until the interior is saturated and the layer underneath is wet through.

8 REVERSING PROCEDURE

Reverse under cover whenever possible. Empty both sets of pockets first, turn the parka completely so no section remains inverted at the sleeve or hood, then reload the pockets now facing outward and confirm every flap is closed.

9 POST-USE DRYING

Hang the parka fully open to dry after every wet use, with the wetter face outward. A PVC-lined shell stored damp and folded traps moisture, develops odor, and degrades faster at the fold lines.

10 STORAGE AND STAGING

Store loose and dry rather than tightly compressed for long periods. For vehicle or go-bag staging, keep the parka near the top of the kit where it can be reached without unpacking, since a rain layer buried under other gear does not get used when it is needed.

11 END-OF-SERVICE EVALUATION

Remove the parka from service when the PVC layer cracks or separates from the outer shell, when a seam opens, when a tear extends past a pocket edge, or when water passes through a face during moderate rain. A shell that no longer sheds water delivers no capability and must be replaced rather than reissued.

SOURCING AND COMPLIANCE NOTE

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