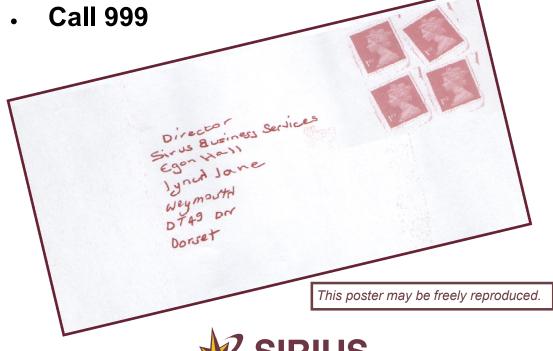
Postal Bombs - Be Aware! Seven Useful Checks Before Opening Mail

If you discover a suspicious package:

- Do not open it,
- Place it on a flat surface





Providers of First Aid, Fire Safety, Health & Safety, Postal & Telephone Bomb Threat Training and Consultancy

Shape

Shape not uniform, e.g. lumps denoting possibility of batteries or switch systems.

Smell

Explosives can smell. A strange smell such as almonds or marzipan should be treated with suspicion.

Sender

Does the post mark tally with the sender's address if shown? Does it have a reference number you can check? Is a member of staff expecting it? Do you recognise the handwriting/post mark?

Size

Is the letter big enough to contain a device – without being obvious, e.g. jiffy-bag. Does it weigh too much? Is it off balance?

Stain

Is there an oily stain through the envelope, or oily fingerprints on the outside? (Some explosives weep or 'sweat' small amounts of liquid that will produce stains).

Seal

Has the letter been sealed more securely than might be usual? Is there extra sealing by tape, staples, etc (denoting it contains something that must be kept in).

Stamps

Are there too many stamps? (Excessive postage) if there is no stamp, has it been delivered by hand or other means?