



# Reporting suspected ordnance

**Always be mindful of objects you may discover on our beaches. If you find something that's an unusual size or shape, especially if it's rusty, it could be unexploded ordnance.**

## About unexploded ordnance

Our shores are steeped in such rich history and remnants of the past can sometimes be uncovered to this day. Unexploded ordnance refers to military material, such as ammunition or equipment that was deployed but not activated.

Tides and changing weather conditions can cause these items to be uncovered or brought ashore. This is particularly common in winter, where stronger winds, storms and ever-changing seas reveal items from the deeper parts of our seabeds.

Ordnance can also be dredged up by vessels.



HM Coastguard

## What ordnance might look like

Ordnance can vary in size and shape. Often, it can look old and rusty but it can also be shiny and look like it's brand new. Due to how varied ordnance can be, it's important to be mindful of objects that you don't recognise or that look unusual when you're at the coast.

## What to do if you discover ordnance

While it is very rare to find unexploded ordnance on a visit to the coast, if you do come across something on the beach that you're unsure of or suspect could be unexploded ordnance, please don't touch or move it.



**Call 999 and ask for the Coastguard or use Channel 16 on VHF radio.**

We will take immediate action with the relevant authorities to keep people safe and ensure the item in question is disposed of correctly.



For more information and safety advice, scan this QR code or visit [hmcoastguard.uk](https://hmcoastguard.uk)

