



# #FAKEMEDS

## SPOT THE FAKES



Fake STI self-test kits  
can give unreliable or  
even false results

Know what you're  
buying - follow  
these top tips

### Beware of dodgy websites

Poor design, pop-ups, spelling and grammar errors are all signs of dodgy websites. Check for genuine product reviews to protect yourself when buying online.



### Look for the CE mark

A legitimate CE mark indicates that the product complies with essential regulatory requirements that make sure they work as they're supposed to and are safe.



### Check the expiry date

Test kits that have passed their expiry date or don't have one won't provide reliable results.



### Check it is a self-test kit

Approved STI self-test kits should clearly state they are for use as a self-test and should not say "For professional use".



### Bad packaging = bad product

Kits with a homemade appearance or ones that are open or damaged should be avoided.

### Make sure the instructions are clear and easy to follow

Instructions should be in English, clear and easy to read. Kits should include clear instructions that show you how to use the test correctly without the need for any specialist equipment.



Help make medical devices safer  
for everyone.

If you think you've spotted a fake  
STI self-test kit report it through  
the Yellow Card scheme.

[gov.uk/fakemedes](https://gov.uk/fakemedes)