

How to create a 'risk rating'

- 1) Decide approximately how severe the harm may be (S), and the likelihood that this will happen (L)
- 2) Give the Severity and Likelihood a score of between 1 and 5,
- 3) Multiply these scores together to give the Risk Rating.

Severity of harm (S)		Likelihood that harm will occur (L)	
1 – Trivial	(eg discomfort, slight bruising, self-help recovery)	1 – Remote	(almost never)
2 – Minor	(eg small cut, abrasion, basic first aid need)	2 – Unlikely	(occurs rarely)
3 – Moderate	(eg strain, sprain, incapacitation > 3 days)	3 – Possible	(could occur, but uncommon)
4 – Serious	(eg fracture, hospitalisation >24 hrs, incapacitation >4 weeks)	4 – Likely	(recurrent but not frequent)
5 – Fatal	(single or multiple)	5 – Very likely	(occurs frequently)

The risk rating (high, medium or low) indicates the level of response required to be taken when designing the action plan.

	Trivial	Minor	Moderate	Serious	Fatal
Remote	1	2	3	4	5
Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10
Possible	3	6	9	12	15
Likely	4	8	12	16	20
Very likely	5	10	15	20	25

Rating Bands (S x L)		
LOW RISK (1 – 8)	MEDIUM RISK (9 - 12)	HIGH RISK (15 - 25)
Continue, but review periodically to ensure controls remain effective	Continue, but implement additional reasonably practicable controls where possible and monitor regularly	-STOP THE ACTIVITY- Identify new controls. Activity must not proceed until risks are reduced to a low or medium level