



Checklist

Construction Site Safety Checklist

The following checklist provides some of the most commonly found hazards on construction sites. However, this checklist is not exhaustive. Be sure to customise this checklist to your site's specific risks.

SITE ACCESS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Can everyone reach the work area safely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all access routes throughout the site in good condition with signs clearly posted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all edges that people could fall from given suitable edge protection, such as double guard rails?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all holes and openings clearly marked and protected with fixed covers to prevent falls?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the site tidy, with all materials stored safely? Are all areas free from slip and trip hazards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there enough lighting throughout the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there proper arrangements in place for collecting and removing waste materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

WORKING AT HEIGHT	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Is the work at height avoidable, possibly by using different equipment or a different work method??	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is all work at height planned out properly with suitable precautions identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can you use fall prevention equipment, such as scaffolding or a mobile elevating work platform?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can you put measures in place, such as nets, soft landing systems or safety decks, to reduce the distance and consequences of a fall?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Are you gaining access to height using the safest means possible?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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SCAFFOLDING	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Are all scaffolds erected, altered and dismantled by competent persons?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all uprights provided with base plates and, where necessary, timber sole plates?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all uprights, ledgers, braces and struts in position?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the structure secured to the building properly to prevent collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does every edge have a double guard rail and toe boards, or other suitable protection to prevent falls?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there additional brick guards provided to prevent materials from falling?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all working platforms fully boarded, and all boards arranged to prevent tipping or tripping?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are effective barriers or warning notices in place to prevent people from using an incomplete scaffold?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the scaffold strong enough to handle the weight of materials stored on it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are the scaffolds being properly maintained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does a competent person inspect the scaffold regularly, and any time it has been altered or damaged, or following adverse weather? Are the inspection results recorded?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are tower scaffolds being erected and used with proper methods and used in accordance with supplier instructions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all tower scaffold wheels locked when in use and platforms emptied when in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

LADDERS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Are there any safer alternatives than using ladders or stepladders for the particular task?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

When working on ladders, is the work of short duration and of low risk?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all ladders and stepladders in good condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do ladders rest against solid surfaces and not on fragile or insecure materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are ladders secured at the top and bottom to prevent them from slipping sideways and outwards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there clean-up procedures in place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has all valuable equipment been removed to higher areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all ladders and step-ladders used properly and for their intended purpose?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do ladders rise at least a metre above their landing place? If not, are there other handholds available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are ladders positioned so that users don't have to overstretch?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all users of ladders and stepladders trained to use them properly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

ROOFWORK	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Do all active roof sites have edge protection to prevent people or materials from falling?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
When performing industrial roofing, are there nets provided to prevent people from falling from the leading edge and from partially fixed sheets? Where nets are used, are they hung safely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have all fragile materials, such as cement sheets and roof lights, been identified? Are precautions taken to prevent people and materials from falling through fragile materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are people kept away from the area below the roof work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all roof workers properly trained to recognise risks, and are they competent to do the work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

EXCAVATIONS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Is there enough support for the excavation, or has it been sloped or battered back to a safe angle?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are safe methods used for putting in supports, without people working in an unsupported trench?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there safe access into the excavation, such as a sufficiently long, secured ladder?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there barriers in place to prevent vehicles and people from falling in?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are properly secured stop blocks provided to prevent tipping vehicles from falling in?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Could the excavation affect the stability of neighbouring structures or services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are materials, spoil and plant stored away from the edge of the excavation to reduce the chance of collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the excavation regularly inspected by a competent person?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

MANUAL HANDLING	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Have all manual handling risks on the site been assessed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there mechanical aids, such as trolleys, hoists and other plant and equipment to move heavy objects so manual handling is kept to a minimum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can you order materials in lower weight increments to reduce strain on handlers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have all manual handlers been instructed and trained on how to properly lift materials, and on how to use lifting aids and handling equipment safely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

LOADING AND UNLOADING GOODS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Has someone checked that the load has not moved or destabilised during the journey to the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there an exclusion zone around the loading/unloading area to keep bystanders away?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Is there a plan for the method of unloading?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have all loading and unloading workers been properly trained to work safely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do workers have to access the back of the lorry, or can all preparation be done from the ground?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have steps been taken to prevent workers from falling off the back of the vehicle?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Are all vehicles and pedestrians kept apart? If not, are there barriers and warning signs provided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can reversing be avoided by using a one-way system or turning area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all vehicles properly maintained? Do all of the vehicle's components work properly? Are tyres in good condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do all drivers have proper training and hold proper licences, and are they competent and fit to use the vehicles they are driving?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all loads properly secured?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are passengers only carried in vehicles designed to carry them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

TOOLS, MACHINERY AND PLANT	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Are the right tools or machinery being used for the job?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all the tools, machinery and plant in good repair and operating correctly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all machine guards secured and functioning properly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all operators trained and competent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

HOISTS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Has the equipment been installed by a competent person?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Are all operators trained and competent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the rated capacity properly marked?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the hoist have a current report of thorough inspection and a record of inspections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there a suitable base enclosure to prevent people from being struck by any moving part of the hoist?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are the landing gates kept shut except when the platform is at the landing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

EMERGENCIES	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Are there emergency procedures in place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does everyone know what the emergency procedures are?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there a means for raising the alarm? Does it alert everyone on the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there a way to contact emergency services from the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there suitable escape routes and are these kept clear?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there proper first-aid provisions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

FIRE	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Is the quantity of flammable materials, liquids and gases kept to a minimum? Are they properly stored?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are flammable gas cylinders returned to a ventilated store at the end of the shift?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are gas cylinders and associated hoses and equipment properly maintained and in good condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
When gas cylinders are not in use, are the valves fully closed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is flammable and combustible waste removed regularly and stored in suitable bins or skips?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are suitable fire extinguishers provided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Have all harmful substances and materials, including asbestos, lead, solvents, paints, cement and silica dust, been identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you checked whether a licensed contractor is needed to deal with asbestos on-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are precautions in place to prevent and control exposure to hazardous substances? This can include removing the risk entirely with a different work process or using a less hazardous material.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do workers have the information and training necessary to recognise risks and know how to control and avoid them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there procedures in place to prevent contact with wet cement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has health surveillance been arranged for workers using certain hazardous substances?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

NOISE	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Has workers' exposure to noise on the site been identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do workers have the information and training necessary to recognise noise on-site and know how to avoid it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can the noise be reduced by using different methods or selecting quieter plant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do workers have proper personal protective equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have hearing protection zones been clearly marked to keep out workers not involved in the work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has health surveillance been arranged for workers exposed to high levels of noise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

HAND-ARM VIBRATION (HAV)	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Has exposure to HAV been avoided or reduced as much as possible, through using lower vibration tools and methods?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do workers have the information and training necessary to recognise HAV risks and know how to avoid them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Have vibrating tools been properly maintained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has health surveillance been arranged for workers exposed to high levels of vibration?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

ELECTRICITY AND OTHER SERVICES	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Have all necessary services been provided on-site before the work begins? Have existing services been identified and measures taken to prevent danger from them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are workers using low voltage for tools and equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are cables and leads protected from damage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are all connections to the system properly made and are suitable plugs used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have hidden electricity cables and other services been located and clearly marked?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Where there are overhead lines, has the electricity supply been turned off, or other suitable measures taken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

WORKER WELFARE	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Are toilets readily available and properly maintained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there washbasins, hot and cold running water, soap and towels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there facilities to change, dry and store clothing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are drinking water and cups provided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do all workers have easy, safe access to welfare facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are welfare facilities kept warm and well-ventilated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Is the site fenced off from the public?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are roadworks well-lit and separated by barriers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Is the public protected from falling material?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the site secure when work stops for the day? This includes securing the boundary, removing ladders, covering openings, securing hazardous materials and immobilising plant and equipment to prevent unauthorised use.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

ADDITIONAL ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Add any additional items here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Add any additional items here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Add any additional items here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Add any additional items here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This checklist is of general interest and is not intended to apply to specific circumstances. It does not purport to be a comprehensive analysis of all matters relevant to its subject matter. The content should not, therefore, be regarded as constituting legal advice and not be relied upon as such. In relation to any particular problem which they may have, readers are advised to seek specific advice. Further, the law may have changed since first publication and the reader is cautioned accordingly. Source: Contains public sector information published by the Health and Safety Executive and licensed under the Open Government Licence v1.0.