

Fire Risk Assessment Checklist for the Construction Industry

To make the process of a risk assessment as simple as possible, we have devised a handy checklist. It is in line with all Government guidance and has been specifically written for environments within the construction industry.

1. What are the fire hazards within your construction site?

- Make a note of anything within your construction site which could start a fire (such as machinery, chemicals and vehicles).
- Make a note of anything within your construction site which could burn (such as paper, wood and fabric).

2. Who is at risk within your construction site?

- Make a note of anyone who could be at risk within your construction site, particularly those who may be more vulnerable in an emergency.

3. How will you keep people safe within your construction site?

- Ensure fuel and heat sources are kept apart.
- Assess the risk to employees and visitors.
- Make a note of anything which could be used to start a fire deliberately.
- Ensure appliances are tested and maintained (such as machinery, electrical tools and construction vehicles).
- Install appropriate fire detection and warning equipment.
- Appoint someone who will be responsible for calling the local Fire and Rescue service.
- Install appropriate fire-fighting equipment.

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- Make sure there are adequate fire escape routes from every area of your construction site.
- Make sure escape routes are obvious, signed and illuminated.
- Ensure all fire safety equipment is in full working order and regularly maintained.
- Make sure measures are in place to inform everyone who works within or visits your construction site of what to do and how to use fire safety equipment.

4. Record, plan and train

- Remove or reduce each fire risk as far as is possible.
- Make a note of what has been done to remove or reduce these risks.
- If there are risks which can't be removed, make a note of how you plan to deal with these risks.
- Plan a timeframe for carrying out all necessary fire safety improvements.
- Inform your hotel/hostel etc. staff, and any guests and visitors, of what to do in an emergency.
- Regularly practice a fire drill and record the results.
- Ensure all your hotel/hostel etc. staff know how to use fire extinguishers.
- Make sure all fire safety information – including emergency plans and escape routes – is made available to guests and visitors. This should be in the form of obvious notices and signs within bedrooms and communal areas.

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5. Review and maintain your plan

- If changes are made to your construction site, your plan must be reviewed.
- If there has been, or almost been, a fire at your construction site, your plan must be reviewed.
- If work processes are changed or updated, your plan must be reviewed.
- After each fire drill, the results should be recorded and your plan updated.