

Layers And Sequences Of Demolition Risk Assessment

Business Name:		ABN:	
Business Address:			
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:	

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager:	

SAMPLE

RISK MATRIX									
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS	
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			Elimination Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Substitution Replace the hazard.	
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	Isolation Isolate People from the hazard	
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	Engineering Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	Administrative Change	
								PPE	

Risk Rating & Required Action:	
4A	Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required.
3H	Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.
2M	Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.
1L	Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.

Consequence Scale:			
Consequence	People (injury/illness)	Project / Assets	Compliance / Reputation
Catastrophic	Fatality or permanent total disability	project shutdown	Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution
Major	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)	critical delay	Improvement notice; major media coverage
Moderate	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day	moderate delay	Minor breach; adverse client comment
Minor	First-aid only, no lost time	negligible delay	Isolated non-conformance
Insignificant	No injury	no schedule impact	Deviation caught and corrected on site

Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:
Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:

1. **Eliminate**
2. **Substitute**
3. **Isolate**
4. **Engineering**
5. **Administrative**
6. **PPE**

Always document **why** a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.

aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
1. Preparation	falling debris, unsafe scaffolding	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erect stable scaffolding compliant with safety standards - Conduct a thorough site safety briefing before the commencement of work - Use personal protective equipment such as hard hats and safety boots - Ensure signage is visible to alert workers of potential hazards - Implement a perimeter containment system to catch falling debris - Train workers on emergency procedures - Establish clear communication channels among all workers - Regular inspection and maintenance of scaffolding - Use exclusion zones to restrict access to hazardous areas - Conduct regular safety audits 	2M
2. Site Setup	electric shock, exposure to hazardous materials	4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage qualified electricians to manage electrical connections - Identify and mark areas with asbestos or hazardous materials - Provide safety data sheets for all hazardous substances on-site - Ensure proper disposal procedures for hazardous materials - Implement lockout/tagout procedures for machinery - Conduct regular inspections of electrical systems for faults - Provide full PPE including gloves and masks for all workers when dealing with chemicals - Ensure first aid kits are available and accessible - Brief workers on the use and handling of hazardous materials - Establish ventilation systems in enclosed spaces 	2M
3. Structural Survey	collapse, inaccurate data leading to unforeseen hazards	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hire qualified structural engineers to conduct surveys - Use advanced technology for precise measurements - Verify survey data with secondary independent surveys - Disseminate accurate findings to the demolition team - Conduct on-site verification of theoretical data - Reinforce unstable structures temporarily before surveys - Plan surveys during suitable weather conditions - Ensure clear evacuation routes are established 	1L

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Train workers on interpreting and using survey data - Implement a system for continuous data updates 	
4. Utility Disconnection	gas leaks, water damage	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
5. Asbestos Removal	exposure to asbestos, incorrect handling	4A	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
6. Structural Demolition	structural instability, dust hazards	4A	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M

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			[REDACTED]	
7. Waste Management	injury from debris, equipment mishandling	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
8. Heavy Equipment Operation	mechanical failure, operator error	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
9. Fall Protection	worker falls, falling tools	4A	[REDACTED]	2M

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			[REDACTED]	
10. Incident Management	delayed response, inadequate first aid	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
11. Noise Management	hearing damage, miscommunication	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
12. Weather Contingencies	slippery surfaces, poor visibility	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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			[REDACTED]	
13. Hazardous Material Handling	chemical exposure, fire	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
14. Traffic Management	vehicle collision, pedestrian injury	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
15. Site Security	unauthorised access, equipment theft	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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			[REDACTED]	
16. Emergency Evacuation	panicked evacuation, blocked exits	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
17. Demobilisation	residual hazardous material, debris	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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18. Documentation and Reporting	incomplete records, miscommunication	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
19. Debriefing	unaddressed issues, employee disengagement	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
20. Continuous Improvement	outdated procedures, complacency	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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SAMPLE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES FOR ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
 Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>
 Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>
 Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>
 Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
 Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017
 Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>
 Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017
 Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>
 Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-of-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022
 Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>
 Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011
 Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011
 Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplaces-and-laws>
 Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>
 Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)
 Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>
 Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012
 Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012
 Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012
 Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>
 Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.

