Risk Assessment

Report: 03-06-2025 08:27:04

Note: Report location: Lat: 51.28028, Lon: 0.47964.

View this location in Google Maps

Risk Assessment: Mounting Ladders on Scaffolding/Excavations

1. Introduction

This risk assessment outlines the potential hazards associated with mounting ladders on scaffolding or within deep excavations on a UK construction site. It identifies the risks, assesses their likelihood and severity, and proposes control measures to minimise the likelihood of accidents.

2. Site Description

[Insert specific site details here, including:

- Location of the work
- Type of scaffolding (e.g., mobile, static)
- Depth of excavation
- Ground conditions
- Weather conditions anticipated
- Access routes
- Surroundings (e.g., nearby structures, traffic, power lines)]

3. Hazards & Risk Assessment Table

Hazard	Description	Likelihood (Low, Medium, High)	Severity (Minor, Moderate, Major)	Risk Rating (Low, Medium, High)	Control Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Review
Falling from height	Fall from ladder while mounting scaffolding or excavation edge. Fall onto hard surfaces or objects below.	Medium	Major	High	• Ladder must be securely anchored to stable surface • Two person system for ladder access • Safe landing zones to be clear of obstructions • Ladders must meet all	Site Supervisor, Scaffolding Erector, Excavator	Daily Site Inspections, Tool Box Talks. Monthly checks of equipment. Recording of any near-miss incidents.

Hazard	Description	Likelihood (Low, Medium, High)	Severity (Minor, Moderate, Major)	Risk Rating (Low, Medium, High)	Control Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Review
					relevant regulations (BS EN 131). • Appropriate work at height training and competence certification • Ladders must be inspected for damage before use • Regular visual checks of ladder stability on site • Scaffolding and excavation edges must be protected by guardrails or similar barriers to avoid accidental falls.		
Impact Injuries	Impact with objects, equipment or the ground.	Low to Medium	Moderate	Medium to High	• Clear working area • Removal of any obstructions near the ladder. • Fall arrest systems may be needed if risk assessment warrants • Ground near the ladder to be free of holes or soft spots.	Site Supervisor, operatives, safety officer	Continuous monitoring for site conditions and obstructions.
Slip/Trip	Slipping or tripping on uneven surfaces around ladder or excavation edge.	Medium	Moderate	Medium	• Ensure access routes to and from the ladder are clear and level • Provide appropriate footwear • Consider the use of non-slip mats/surfaces around ladder base • Ladders should be placed at an appropriate angle	Site Supervisor, operatives	Inspection of access routes and work areas before use. Regular safety checks by supervisor, operatives, and competent person.

Hazard	Description	Likelihood (Low, Medium, High)	Severity (Minor, Moderate, Major)	Risk Rating (Low, Medium, High)	Control Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Review
Electrocution	Contact with overhead power lines or buried cables while accessing scaffolding or excavation.	Low to Medium	Major	Medium to High	• Confirming location of power lines and cables with the relevant utility providers. • Use of a qualified person to assess if there is any risk of electrocution • Ensure the use of insulated tools • Clearly marked danger zones with warning signs.	Site Supervisor, electrician	Checking for power line clearance before beginning work. Routine checks of underground services with utility provider as required.
Confined Space Hazards	Risk of hazards within excavations (e.g., poor ventilation, toxic gases).	Low to Medium	Moderate	Medium to High	• Excavations of a specified depth require specific permit and method statements • Assess and manage potential hazards within confined spaces and excavations. • Adequate ventilation measures • Safe systems of work for working in excavations. • Competent person to assess and supervise confined space entry	Site Supervisor, Excavation Specialist	Pre-excavation surveys and risk assessment reports. Site engineer, safety officer.
Overloading/Poorly placed ladders	Overloading or not placing the ladder properly.	Low	Moderate	Medium	• Using suitable ladders for the job (suitable load capacity) • Safe ladder angle (75-80 degrees) for safety	Site Supervisor, operatives	Regular inspection of ladders.
Weather related issues	Adverse weather conditions such as wind, rain, snow and	Low to Medium	Moderate	Low to Medium	• Consider appropriate weather-related precautions	Site Supervisor, weather monitoring	Weather forecasts monitored.

Hazard	Description	Likelihood (Low, Medium, High)	Severity (Minor, Moderate, Major)	Risk Rating (Low, Medium, High)	Control Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Review
	extreme temperatures affecting work safety.				and safety systems. • Monitor and be prepared for changes in weather condition. • Work only under appropriate safe weather conditions		

4. Control Measures

- **Training and Competence:** All personnel working near scaffolding or excavations must receive appropriate training on safe ladder use, fall protection, confined space entry and work at height. Certificates of competence and adherence to the requirements of the Construction Design Management Regulations must be observed.
- **Equipment Inspection:** Regular inspections of ladders, scaffolding, and excavation equipment are essential to ensure their structural integrity.
- **Site Management:** Clear signage, safe access routes and suitable landing zones are mandatory.
- **Communication:** Effective communication between supervisors, operatives, and other site personnel is critical for safety.
- **Monitoring:** Continuous monitoring of the working environment, the weather and control measures will minimise risk.

5. Emergency Procedures

[Insert specific emergency procedures for the site, including contact numbers and evacuation plans.]

6. Review

This risk assessment must be reviewed and updated at least annually or following any significant changes to the site, the works, or legislation.

Disclaimer: This is a template risk assessment. It must be adapted and completed with the specific details of the site and work in question. This is not a substitute for professional advice and training. A competent person should be consulted before carrying out the work.