



Risk Assessment of disabled individuals

There is no legal requirement to carry out a separate risk assessment specific to a disabled person. But, if we become aware of a member with a disability, a review of our existing risk assessment will be made to make sure it covers any risk to them.

Our Policy is to:

- Make 'assessments of risk' to the health and safety of each shedder and to act upon risks they identify, so as to reduce them
- Appoint a competent person to oversee workplace H&S
- properly maintain the equipment, irrespective of how old it is
- provide information, instruction and training on the use of equipment; and protect users from dangerous parts of machinery
- Ensure portable electrical equipment is continuously maintained
- provide a first aid kit and accident book
- have insurance that covers you in case you get hurt.

Users are advised to:

- wear suitable PPE for the risk in question, and if necessary include face masks and goggles, safety helmets, gloves, ear defenders, overalls and protective footwear
- avoid (so far as is reasonably practicable) any manual handling activities involving injury risk
- take reasonable care of their own and other people's health and safety
- tell the competent person if you think the work or inadequate precautions are putting anyone's health and safety at serious risk
- record in an accident book the date and time of any incident, details of the person(s) affected, the nature of their injury or condition and a brief note on what happened.

As a workshop user members must:

- use the equipment and safety devices supplied or given to you properly, in accordance with any training and instructions (unless you think that would be unsafe).

Further action

If more work is needed to ensure their and others safety, an individual assessment of their personal risk will be carried out.

We do not aim to exclude members from certain types of activities, but if an activity is assessed as hazardous to their or others safety an alternative solution will be sought. With these reasonable adjustments, and reviews when circumstances change, risks can be managed by:

- Asking other members to carry out the activity on their behalf
- providing suitable alternative equipment, for example automated equipment to reduce manual handling or alternatively manual tools instead of high-risk machinery.

Where it is identified that a member is unsafe to work unaided, we aim to ensure they have a designated carer or appropriate member who is trained to monitor and supervise the vulnerable individual in their chosen activities, In line with our safeguarding policy.

Members are also always encouraged to take regular breaks.

Workshop Risk Assessment – with additional safeguards for disabled users

Hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action	Further action relevant to disabled individual
Exposure to wood dust	Users risk lung diseases, such as asthma, from inhaling wood dust. Hardwood dust can cause cancer, particularly of the nose.	Local fine dust exhaust ventilation (LEV) provided at static machines where necessary and users are trained in using it LEV maintained to keep it in good condition and working effectively Wood dust cleared up regularly Fine dust mobile extractor available for mobile sanding Suitable respiratory protective equipment (RPE) is advised Any affected user referred to a medical professional	Remind staff of the risks of wood dust, and why these controls are necessary Remind users never to dry sweep wood dust, which just spreads the dust Ensuring any new extraction equipment is fit for purpose, and is a filtered modern extractor.	In process. Ongoing as new members join	Individual may need reminding to turn extractors on/off, open/close extractor gates and wear PPE, use portable extractor. Not to use toxic timbers. Clean up after themselves safely and in a timely manner
Machinery	Users risk serious and possibly fatal cut injuries following contact with moving parts of machinery, particularly saw blades.	Machines that users operate are guarded according to manufacturer's instructions Guards inspected regularly and maintained as necessary Users have sufficient space at machines to work safely All users to be trained in safe use of machines All machines braked where relevant and fitted with necessary safety features	Manuals available High risk machinery risk assessments Detailed training written for each machine Other members instructed not to distract users when operating machines.	In process. Ongoing as new members join	Ongoing monitoring may be needed. Reminding of safe usage. Always supervised when using high risk machinery or in some cases other members use machinery for them, or a buddy/carer accompanies them.
Manual handling	Users may suffer musculoskeletal disorders, such as back pain, from handling heavy/bulky objects. Also risk	Shedders trained in manual handling Workbenches and machine tables set at a comfortable height Strong, thick gloves advised for handling tooling and timber	Where possible, store tooling next to the machine Remind staff to use gloves not to try to lift objects that appear too heavy	In process. Ongoing as new members join	Reminding of safe manual handling

	cuts when handling tooling, or splinters from timber.	Systems of work in place for the safe and careful handling of assembled items			
Noise	Shedders may suffer temporary or permanent hearing damage from exposure to noise from woodworking machinery.	Low-noise tooling purchased wherever possible Isolate or enclose noisy machines Planned maintenance programme for machinery and LEV systems Suitable hearing protectors advised and available for user.	Consider if any could be safely mounted on anti-vibration mountings Noise emission is considered in any purchase of new tools	Confirmed	Noise levels monitored
Slips, trips and falls	Users could suffer injuries such as bruising or fractures if they trip over objects, or slip, eg on spillages, and fall.	Generally good housekeeping – off-cuts cleared away promptly, dust cleared regularly Good lighting in all areas Clear passageways maintained No steps throughout premises.	Users advised to wear safety shoes that have a good grip. Remind users to clear up spillages	In process. Ongoing as new members join	Reminding of good housekeeping, keeping walkways clear and tidying up regularly
Electrical	Users could get electrical shocks or burns from using faulty electrical equipment. Electrical faults can also lead to fires.	Residual current device (RCD) built into main switchboard Users trained to spot and report any defective plugs, discoloured sockets or damaged cable/ equipment to owner Trailing leads avoided	Safety check of the electrical installation done at installation prior to building sign off Confirm the system for making safe any damage to building installation electrics	Confirmed. Electrical system and equipment under Continuous inspection and maintenance.	Monitoring of portable equipment usage to ensure no dangerous trailing leads.
Fire	If trapped, user could suffer fatal injuries from smoke inhalation/burns	Fire risk assessment done, necessary action taken Smoke detectors fitted Evacuation procedures visible Main door and emergency exit kept clear	Ensure the actions identified as necessary by the fire risk assessment are completed	See fire risk assessment. New members and visitors instructed.	Ensure all disabled members are safe to evacuate unaided or have a PEEPS.