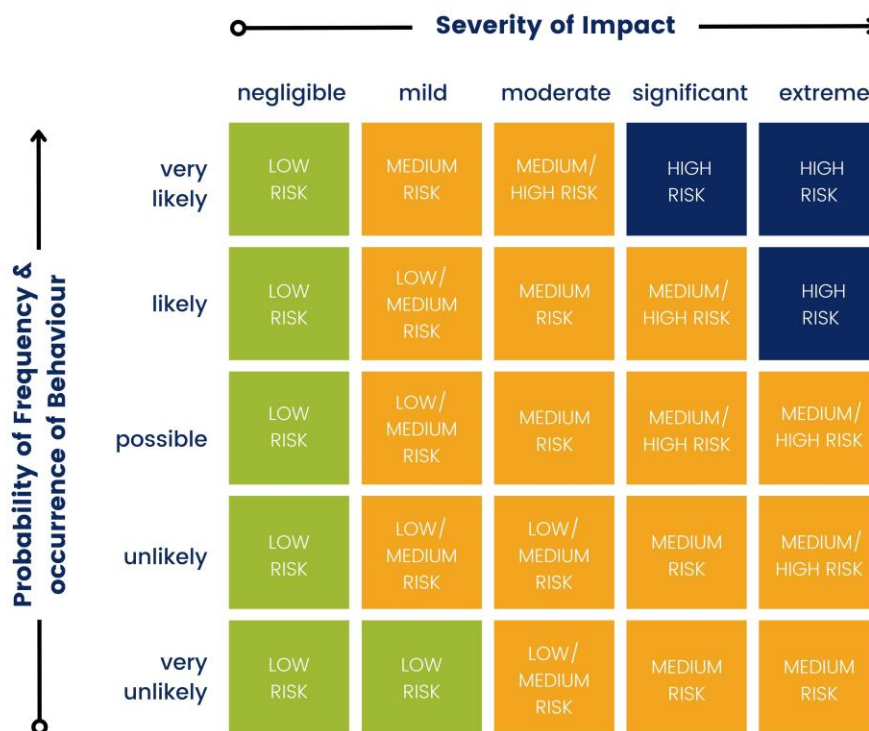


Risk Assessment Matrix

A risk assessment matrix is a tool used during both dynamic and formal risk assessment. It identifies and captures the likelihood of risks and evaluates the potential damage caused by those risks.

This risk assessment matrix offers a visual representation of the risk analysis and categorises risks based on their level of probability of frequency of a behaviour and potential severity of impact of that behaviour. This tool is a simple, effective way to get a holistic view of the risks.



Risk Assessment

1: Look for hazards

For example:

- The environment
- Risk of injury or harm
- Potential weapons and unsafe equipment
- Manual handling requirements
- Access to danger, including physical spaces, heights, and dangerous materials

2: Decide who may be harmed and how

We think about everyone who may be exposed to some form of risk:

- The individual
- Other individuals in our care
- Staff members
- Visitors, members of the public, and family members

3: Consider ways to reduce the risk

For each hazard, we look at existing precautions and consider additional ones to further reduce risk.

Such as:

- Removing a hazard altogether
- Preventing access to the hazard
- Improving supervision
- Effective primary supportive strategies
- A training needs analysis: Identifying necessary training for any member of staff who may experience risk/ hazardous behaviour. Appropriate training must be provided when needed to enable us to protect ourselves and those we care for.
- Physical changes to an environment
- Protective equipment, furniture and/or clothing

4: Recording findings

We document the findings of the risk assessment and the steps taken to reduce risk. We must ensure that the control measures are implemented effectively and that employees are aware of them. It is helpful to include the names of the professionals involved in the formulation of the plan. A formal risk assessment needs to be user-friendly, succinct, and easy to understand.