

Health & Safety

Risk assessments

- Risk assessment is exactly what it says: identifying and assessing any possible problems that may reasonably arise.
- Both artists and businesses need to be aware of health and safety issues while working together. Risk assessments are often part of business protocol and templates may already be available to you that can be adapted.
- Artists should be able to provide a risk assessment for their practice, but will benefit from a joint assessment when working on site.
- It is good practice to undertake a risk assessment of any work you may be doing.

A risk assessment:

- Identifies any potential problem areas
- Says whether the risk is of a high, medium or low nature
- Identifies what steps can be taken to avoid the problem happening
- Gives a plan for what will happen if a problem does arise
- Says who is responsible for making sure the risk is minimized
- If anything happens, remember that you may be personally liable.

All artists who earn income from their work are required to:

- Take all reasonable steps to ensure their own safety
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of others
- Provide training in the safe use of materials or processes
- Assess the risks of any materials they are using and take steps to store and use materials safely
- Report particular accidents or near misses
- Seek professional advice where appropriate
- Control or prevent environmental damage arising from work