

Health & Safety SKILLS KIT



Your Details

Name:

School:

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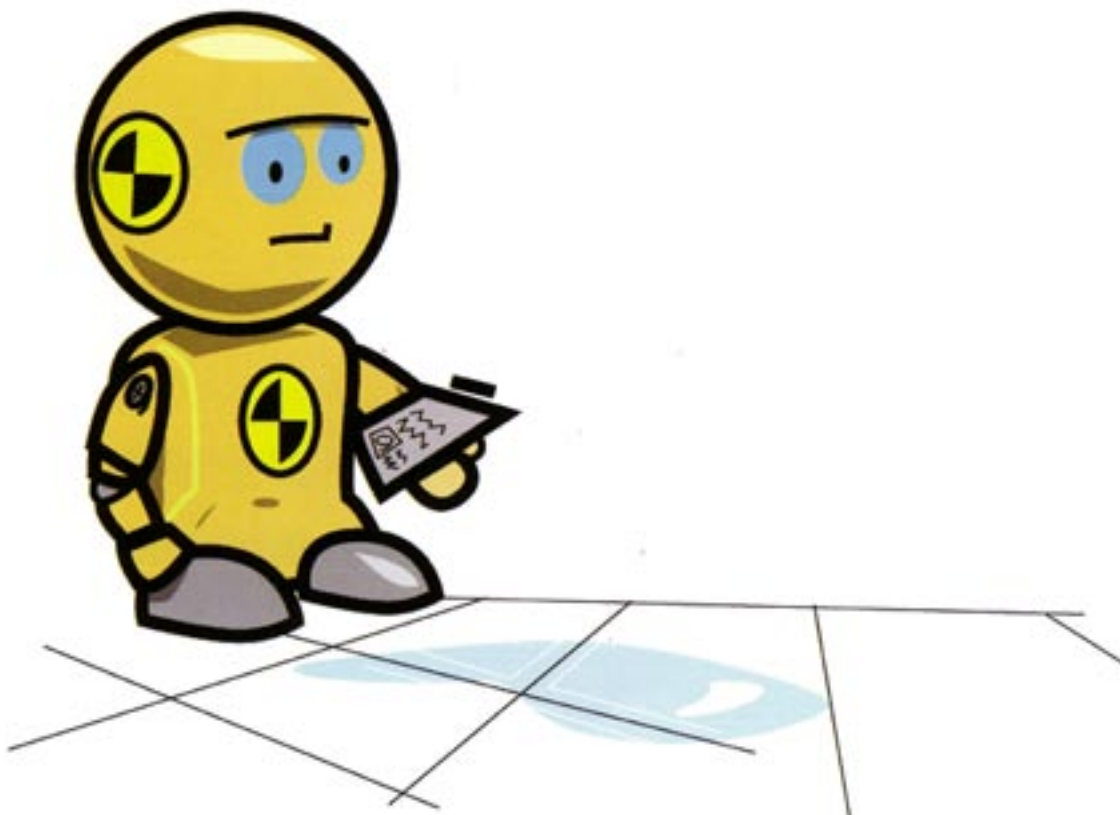
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There are over 1 million accidents at work in the UK each year. This results in more than 20 million lost working days per year, with an estimated cost to industry of more than £5 billion (UK Statistics 2001/2002)

Section 1: Introduction to Health & Safety

Costs of poor Health & Safety practice

Accidents, ill health and stress.
Loss of earnings. More sick leave.
Reduced profit.



Can you think of any others?

Benefits of good Health & Safety practice

Less accidents, ill health and stress.
Reduction in sick leave.
Higher company profits.



Can you think of any others?

Most common injuries to workers 2002 - 2003

Slips, trips or fall on same level.	10,360 (37% of all major injuries)
Falls from height	3,940 (22% of all fatalities)
Struck by a moving object	3,920
Injuries when handling, lifting or carrying	3,360 (Most common 3 day injury)
Exposure to harmful substances	1,020

Why accidents happen

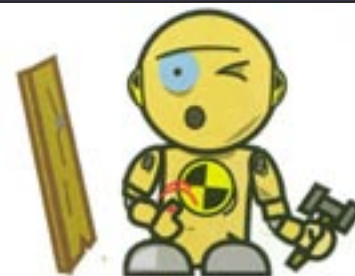
There are three main factors which affect health & safety. These are:

Occupational factors

People may be at risk because of the work they do

Environmental factors

The conditions people work in



Accident prevention

Think about accident prevention - the hierarchy of control

Remove or eliminate the hazard

Substitute a hazardous material or process with a non-hazardous or less hazardous one

Separate or isolate worker from hazard

Develop and use safe systems of work

Train, instruct and supervise workers

Provide personal protection to minimise the consequences as a last resort

The Health & Safety At Work Act 1974 requires an employer to secure the health, safety and welfare of people at work, together with persons not directly employed, including members of the public and visitors.

The Management of Health & Safety At Work Regulations 1999 places a legal duty upon an employer and/or those in control of the premises to carry out a series of written risk assessments in order to identify hazards in the workplace.

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Definitions

An accident is an uncontrolled or unplanned event

A hazard is something with the potential to cause harm

Risk is the likelihood of an accident happening

A precaution eliminates the hazard or reduces the risk of an accident happening



Responsibilities

Legislation places responsibilities on:

Employers

Employees

Self employed

Suppliers

Manufacturers

EVERYBODY!



Risk Assessment

Formal risk assessments must be carried out in every workplace. Areas to cover are:

What are the hazards?

Who is at risk?

How big is the risk?

What control measures are needed?

What action is needed?

Who needs to know the control measures?



1. Activities



Describe an operation being performed in a workplace



List the control measures you think are important in preventing accidents from happening



Identify all the potential hazards in the workplace



Use the information to produce a risk assessment document

Key

Health Soundness; especially of body or mind

Safety The condition of being safe; freedom from danger, risk, or injury

Did you know?

The HSE reports that in 2002-3 there was a total of 21 workers between the ages of 16 and 24 who died at work. This is a 20% increase on the previous year when 16 workers died.

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