

Mountaineering Scotland



Risk Assessment Form

Activity : Steep Ground and Scrambling Venues : Mountain Terrain – UK

Assessed by: Robert MacKenzie Date: 07/03/2025 Review Due: 07/03/2026

	Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
Highly Unlikely	Trivial Risk	Tolerable Risk	Moderate Risk
Unlikely	Tolerable Risk	Moderate Risk	Substantial Risk
Likely	Moderate Risk	Substantial Risk	Intolerable Risk

Hazard Description	Potential Injury/Damage	Persons at Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating	Further action Required
Slip/trips	Brusing, sprains broken limbs	Instructor and client(s)	Appropriate footwear for terrain and ground conditions; coaching of movement; suitable venue choice	Moderate	
Fall from height	Sever Injury; Death	Instructor and client(s)	MCI qualification; coaching of movement; suitable venue choice; use of appropriate equipment	Moderate	
Hit by falling rock/object	Head injury	Instructor, Client and public	Use of helmets when in exposed places. Briefing of clients on hazard and calls. Good group management	tolerable	
Tick bites	Tick borne diseases	all	Briefing/education on ways to reduce risk – long sleeves, Deet insect repellent, tick check,	Tolerable	
Lightning strike	Sever injury/death	all	Follow good practice as outlined in https://www.mountaine ering.scot/safety-and-skills/essential-skills/weather-conditions/lightning	Moderate	
Hypo/hyperthermi a	Death	all	Appropriate clothing for conditions; instructor supervision; check weather forecast; appropriate duration and venue. Correct food/drink	Moderate	
Equipment and/or belay failure	Sever injury; death	Instructor and client(s)	All equipment that is used is fit for purpose; qualified instructors;	moderate	





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Psychological stress	Psychological damage; development of a phobia	Client(s)	Experienced, qualified instructor; appropriate venue selection; good communication; instructor awareness	

Risk/Benefit Analysis

Enable people to experience steep ground and develop the skills to negotiate this type of terrain in a safer more controlled manner. With better skills and greater experience, the hope is that participants become more aware and more confident so will be less likely to need the assistance of mountain rescue.

Independence: Increasing the skills of people in this terrain will increase their mountain independence and enable them to explore more of Scotland's mountains.