

Designer Contracts Ltd

Risk Assessment

Reference: GENUSINGKNIVES

Title	Using Knives – General Risk Assessment	Date Of Assessment	Tue 01 Jul 2025
Site	Designer Contracts Ltd	Location	All Sites
Risk Assessor	Laura Cross	Assisted By	Antony Maidens
Non-Employees Involved	–	People At Risk	Employees, Contractors
Task Description	General Risk Assessment		
Review Date	Wed 01 Jul 2026	Reviewer	Laura Cross

Hazards

Hazard	Electrical
Risk Of Harm	Electric Shock
Existing Control Measures	1. Ask for electricity to be turned off before cutting around any electrical wires (if present)

Hazard	Uneven, Wet or Slippery Floors
Risk Of Harm	Serious Injury to self and others
Existing Control Measures	1. Ensure the area is clear of obstructions – if someone is helping you ensure they are aware of any trip hazards 2. Ensure all rubbish is removed when leaving site. Designer Contracts have a waste carriers licence and can be provided upon request

Hazard	Working Alone
Risk Of Harm	No one may be aware if you are injured
Existing Control Measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If working alone please ensure you maintain hourly contact with Designer Contracts – if you need assistance please call the office immediately. 2. Inform the site manager that you are working alone so that they are aware to check on you 3. Please see separate lone working policy

Hazard	Falling
Risk Of Harm	Serious injury to self and others
Existing Control Measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If using/working on stairs, ensure the area is clear of obstruction and always ask for assistance if required

Hazard	Cuts
Risk Of Harm	Cuts to body parts
Existing Control Measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level 5 Cut resistance safety gloves and sleeves must be worn when cutting. 2. Ensure full length trousers with knee pads are worn 3. Stanley type knives with fixed or retractable blades to be stored in holsters or boxes when not in use 4. Ensure knives and blades are not left lying around. Spare blades to be securely stored 5. Only safety knives (hooked/guarded blades) are to be used when cutting through plastic strapping, cardboard, polythene wrapping and wherever else is practical. Scissors may be used if safety knives are not suitable for the task being carried out 6. Condition of knives and blades to be checked before using 7. Ensure there are no distractions when using knives – ensure complete concentration is maintained at all times. 8. Ensure others in the vicinity are aware that knives are being used 9. Sharps boxes to be used for used blades. 10. Ensure that you keep your free hand away from the cutting line (Stanley Knife suggest 6 inches) It should be far enough away so that if the blade slips you have time to move your hand before it is injured.

Past Reviews

Review Date	Reviewer	Comments
Sun 08 Oct 2023	Antony Maidens	risk and control measures reviewed