

# RISK ASSESSMENT – INFLATABLES (hired with Operator)

What are the hazards?	Existing control measures	Likelihood 1 = not likely 2 = likely 3 = very likely	Level of Harm 1 = minor 2 = moderate 3 = serious	Risk Score  L x H	Further control measures to reduce the risk
Injury through incorrect positioning of inflatable	Area to be inspected for suitability before inflatable is secured and inflated ensuring stones or sharp objects are removed and disposed of in a sensible and safe manner. Height checked for suitability and for any obstructions ie branches, cables, lights.	1	2	2	None
Injury through defective equipment	Inflatables visually inspected at the start of each hire period for any rips, holes or bulges, and any signs of damage which could cause the equipment to fail.	1	2	2	Condition of equipment to be regularly monitored throughout hire period.
Petrol blowers/generator – risk of fire	Blowers/generators are filled with fuel before inflatable is used. Units are fire retardant. Ensure members of the public are kept away from the set-up area.	1	3	3	All spare fuel is stored in a suitable marked container in a safe location. Unit is switched off during re-fuelling.
Danger of fire	No smoking or barbecues near the Inflatable at any time.	1	3	3	None
Injury through insecure anchorage	Never use the unit without proper anchorage in place, it may be blown over in certain wind conditions. All inflatables should be staked down at all anchor points (usually a minimum of six) and guide ropes, where applicable, must be used. Any inflatable sited on a hard surface such as concrete, wood or tarmac must have adequate heavy sand bags attached to the anchor points to secure the inflatable.	1	3	3	Anchorage points to be regularly monitored throughout hire period.
Tripping over anchorage points, spare equipment, electrical cables	All anchorage points used as per manufacturer's instructions and spare equipment, leads etc either stowed or erected safely.	1	2	2	In the event of large numbers of participants attending, or large events, additional safety fencing should be erected. Where possible, electrical cables are not to cross any public pathway. If unavoidable, cable should be erected overhead or covered over.
Danger of injury from hard surfaces.	Safety mats MUST be used for entry/exit points when the inflatable is sited on a hard surface. The inflatable must never be mounted unless the inflatable bed is fully	1	3	3	None

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	inflated, whether the inflatable is in operation or not, as this can lead to serious injury.				
Injury through lack of inflatable pressure or suffocation.	Do not allow anyone to be on the Inflatable during inflation or deflation as this can be EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.	1	3	3	None
Injury through third parties & spectators.	Always ensure that the area surrounding the inflatable is not overcrowded.	2	2	4	None
Adverse weather conditions.	The inflatable must be switched off in heavy rain and is not permitted to run in strong winds. During hot weather, the inflatable can become hot and extra care is needed.	Dependent on weather	Dependent on weather	Dependent on weather	None
Injury through lack of supervision.	Operator / Attendant must supervise the inflatable at all times. In the event that the Operator / Attendant is not in view, the inflatable should not be used.	1	3	3	None
Over enthusiastic participants	Operator / Attendant should supervise the inflatable at all times whilst being used by members of the public.	2	2	4	A-board showing users safety information should be displayed at entrance to inflatable and should be pointed out to over enthusiastic participants.
Choking	No food, drink or chewing gum to be allowed on or near the Inflatable.	1	3	3	None
Injury through third party items	All shoes, glasses, jewellery, badges MUST be removed before using this Inflatable.	2	2	4	None
Danger of falling from height.	Climbing, hanging or sitting on walls is dangerous and is not allowed at any time. This rule is extremely important when the inflatable is erected on a hard surface.	2	2	4	None
Danger of unnecessary injury.	Operator / Attendant, where reasonably practicable, should ensure that no person with a history of heart, back or neck problems, high blood pressure, joint weakness, or a known medical disability uses the inflatable. Anyone who is feeling unwell, suffering the effects of alcohol or drugs, or pregnant women must not use the equipment at any time.	1	3	3	None

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Overloading or tipping over.	Operator / Attendant should ensure that the maximum age or height limit and number of users recommended for the inflatable is adhered to at all times.	2	2	4	None
Larger participants colliding with smaller participants	Operator / Attendant must supervise the inflatable at all times.	2	2	4	Participants put in to groups of a similar size
Inflatable Slide	A slip-sheet is used to prevent users from falling through a split seam.	1	1	1	None
Emergency	In the event that someone is seriously injured, DO NOT move the individual, leave the inflatable switched on and dial 999 immediately.	1	3	3	None

