


Erected Scaffolds Self-Assessment Tool

This self-assessment tool is for PCBUs using erected scaffolds on their worksite, to ensure their workplace complies with legislation related to safe scaffold use. The checklist contains questions like the ones on the audit tool used by our Inspectors when conducting site audits as part of the Construction Priority Harms Campaign.

Scaffolding 	Compliant	Comments	Legislative Reference
<p>Has a risk assessment been conducted prior to the commissioning of a scaffold contractor? <i>Consider overhead powerlines, trees, gas lines etc</i></p>	Yes	No	Regs: 34, 35, 36, 297
<p>If your scaffold is less than 4 metres, has it been erected by a competent person? <i>SafeWork SA and industry guidance (AS/NZS 4576) recommend that erection be carried out by someone who is appropriately trained and competent in scaffold assembly. This means they understand the manufacturer's instructions, load limits, and safe work practices.</i></p>	Yes	No	Regs: 201

Is your scaffold one of the following:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| » <i>Suspended scaffold?</i> | Yes | No |
| » <i>Cantilevered scaffold?</i> | Yes | No |
| » <i>Spur scaffold?</i> | Yes | No |
| » <i>Hung scaffold?</i> | Yes | No |
| » <i>Any other scaffold from which a person or object could fall more than 4 metres?</i> | Yes | No |

If yes, does the scaffolder hold a high-risk work licence? Yes No

Regs: 85

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulations, a High-Risk Work Licence (Scaffolding) is required for the erection, alteration, or dismantling of:

- » *Suspended scaffolds*
- » *Cantilevered scaffolds*
- » *Spur scaffolds*
- » *Hung scaffolds*
- » *Any other scaffold from which a person or object could fall more than 4 metre*

Have you received written confirmation stating that your scaffold is compliant to AS1576 (for certain types of scaffolds)? Yes No

Certain types of scaffolding under regulation 225 (Regulation 225(2)).

Regs: 37, 225,
AS: 1576

Is your scaffold being regularly inspected? Yes No

For certain types of scaffolds, every 30 days, before use after an incident or after repairs - regulation 225 (Regulation 225(3))



Regs: 37

Have sufficient tie-ins, raker bars/bays or diagonal bracing been installed? Yes No

AS: 1576

Is the scaffold erected on stable ground and/or sitting on solid hardwood sole boards? Yes No

AS: 1576

Falling Objects 	Compliant		Comments	Legislative Reference
Are kickboards or brickie screens installed to manage the risk of falling objects?	Yes	No		Regs: 316
If no, has an exclusion zone been established?	Yes	No		Regs: 459, 529
Managing Risk of Falls	Compliant		Comments	Legislative Reference
Is the scaffold missing any components? <i>(e.g. scaffold planks, ledgers, transoms etc)</i>	Yes	No		Regs: 435
Are any lap boards secured and appropriate?	Yes	No		Regs: 37, 225, AS: 1576
Is the gap between the building/structure and the scaffold less than 225mm long?	Yes	No		Regs: 37
Are all vertical openings less than 300 mm, to reduce the risk of people or materials falling through?	Yes	No		AS: 1576
Access/Egress and Housekeeping (to the scaffold and on the scaffold) 	Compliant		Comments	Legislative Reference
Does the layout of your workplace allow persons to access and work on the scaffold unobstructed?	Yes	No		Regs: 435
If using a ladder for access to the scaffold:				
» <i>Is it setup a ratio of 1:4 (or better)?</i>	Yes	No		Regs: 37, 225, AS: 1576
» <i>Does it extend at least 900mm above the platform landing?</i>	Yes	No		
» <i>Have you installed a swing gate or swivel bar (when the opening forms part of the working deck)?</i>	Yes	No		

Electrical 

Compliant

Comments

Legislative Reference

Is there adequate safe clearance distance from the scaffold to any powerlines?

Yes No

Regs: 166

Is there an adequate safe distance between any workers and powerlines?

Yes No

Voltage	240 V - 415 V	7.6 V - 33k V	66k V	132k V (Pole)	132k V (Tower)	275k V
Horizontal distance (Dimension C)	1.5 m	3.1 m	5.5 m	15 m	20 m	25 m
Vertical distance (Dimension A)	3.7 m	5.5 m	6.7 m	-	-	-



33kV, 66kV or 132 kV

33kV, 66kV or 132 kV

33kV or 11kV

19kV (SWER)

Site Security

Compliant

Comments

Legislative Reference

Have you restricted unauthorised access to the scaffold outside of working hours?

Yes No

Regs: 255, 298

For more information:

- [Scaffolding Work – SafeWork SA](#)
- [Slips, Trips and Falls – SafeWork SA](#)
- [Managing the Risk of Falls Code of Practice – SafeWork SA](#)
- [Falling Objects – SafeWork SA](#)
- [Working at Heights – SafeWork SA](#)
- [Ladders – SafeWork SA](#)
- [Working Near Utility Services – SafeWork SA](#)



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