



# Group Walks | Risk Assessment

Every walk is different, so complete a risk assessment for each one you lead to help you plan and make a note of the steps you are taking to keep walkers safe. After a walk, risk assessments should be stored for three years. Each walk leader can keep their own risk assessments, or groups can choose someone to look after them.

Have a great walk!

|                                 |              |               |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Who is leading the walk?</b> | <b>Name:</b> | <b>Group:</b> |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------|

|                         |              |                         |               |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Dates</b> (DD/MM/YY) | <b>Walk:</b> | <b>Risk assessment:</b> | <b>Recce:</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|

| <b>Hazards</b><br>Make a note of any hazards to walkers or others on your route   | <b>Precautions</b><br>Tick the boxes that apply and add any others – you don't need to tick every box. |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Weather</b><br>What is the forecasted weather? Is there any danger of extreme temperatures, heavy rainfall or other severe weather events? | Check the weather forecast and postpone/cancel if necessary  |  |
|   | Advise walkers to bring suitable clothing and items for the conditions                                 |  |
|   | Make a note of 'escape routes' on the recce  |  |
|   | Other/Detail:  |  |

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Traffic</b></p> <p>Do you need to cross or walk along a road? Are there any level crossings?</p>                                    |  | Check for suitable crossing places on the recce   |  |
|   |  | Communicate clearly with the group on the day   |  |
|   |  | Maintain single file on any road sections   |  |
|   |  | Other/Detail:   |  |
| <p><b>Path surface and obstacles</b></p> <p>Are there hazards such as slippery paths, loose rocks, stiles, fallen trees, steep drops?</p> |  | Check for hazards on the recce and adapt the route if needed  |  |
|   |  | Provide clear information to walkers beforehand   |  |
|   |  | Advise walkers to bring suitable footwear for the conditions  |  |
|   |  | Other/Detail:   |  |
| <p><b>Animals</b></p> <p>Will you pass livestock? Is there any danger of ticks or bites/stings?</p>                                       |  | Let walkers know to cross fields with livestock calmly and quietly, keeping the group together. Be prepared to divert if needed |  |
|   |  | Leave gates and property as you find them   |  |
|   |  | Advise walkers to check for ticks and remove promptly if found  |  |
|   |  | Other/Detail:   |  |



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|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>Is there a chance you could get lost, lose touch with walkers, lose visibility or phone signal?</p> |  | Recce the route in advance                                      |  |
|   |  | Pre-register phone with 999 emergency text service              |  |
|   |  | Let somebody know your plans and the time you expect to be back |  |
|   |  | Other/Detail:   |  |
| <p><b>Other</b></p> <p>Add any other hazards on your walk here.</p>   |  | Follow any national or local Covid-19 restrictions              |  |
|   |  | Other/Detail:   |  |

If you have any questions about **Ramblers group walks**, please get in touch: [volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com](mailto:volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com)