

Assess the Object for Risks

Object risk assessment enables the worker to:

- identify risks in the object
- consider ways to eliminate or manage object risks

Any worker who moves objects conducts an object risk assessment before, during and after performing the move. This risk assessment is an ongoing and continuous process as the object may change at any point in the moving task.

To conduct an object risk assessment, the worker considers various risk factors that may impact the safety of the moving task - in the object itself and in the task being performed:

The Object

- Size/shape
- Weight
- Texture
- Contents
- Handles
- Balance
- Temperature

The Task

- Location
- Distance to be moved
- Force to initiate, maintain or stop movement
- Frequency/repetition

TLR Safe Work Practice - Problem-Solving Risk Factors

When identified risks cannot be eliminated or managed, consider ways to problem-solve, such as:

- selecting another safe approach at that time
- seeking assistance to problem solve the risk factors (e.g., medical professional, ergonomist, co-workers, supervisor, TLR trainer/instructor, specialized assessment)
- identifying and scheduling tasks where workers can safely work alone and those where the team approach is safest
- documenting your concerns and forwarding them to your supervisor for resolution if a solution is not readily available (consider additional training you may need)
- forwarding your concerns to the occupational health committee or occupational health and safety representative if the concerns are not resolved at the supervisory level; if in place, the TLR Core Committee could also assist

Refer to the TLR User Manual, Module 2, for more information on the TLR risk assessment process.

Safety Talk Discussion

Be Accountable: Choose safety - work safe - and go home injury free!