

FIRST-FIX CARPENTRY

Studwork · floor carpentry · strutting · noggins · sheathing

ACTIVITY RAMS — ADAPT TO SITE BEFORE USE

KD-RAMS-CJ-001 Rev A0

Statutory basis: HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5 (this document is the recorded safe system of work); COSHH 2002 — wood dust is a substance hazardous to health and hardwood dust a carcinogen, against the workplace exposure limits in EH40/2005 (4th edition, 2020); PUWER 1998 (saws and nailers); Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992; Work at Height Regulations 2005; LOLER 1998 reg 8 for offloading and lifting trusses; CDM 2015 regs 13 and 15. A trussed roof is not stable until it is braced: the bracing is temporary works under BS 5975-1:2024, it is set by the design, and it goes on as each truss is set rather than at the end of the run.

1 DOCUMENT AND PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

RAMS REFERENCE	PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE PREPARED	NEXT REVIEW DATE
CLIENT / PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR	PLANNED START	DURATION	OPERATIVES	SUPERVISING THE WORK

2 SCOPE OF WORKS

First-fix carpentry: timber studwork, floor joisting and coverings, cut roof carpentry to the engineer's design, strutting, noggins and sheathing, including temporary works interfaces during construction.

This document does not cover: structural design (the engineer's), trussed rafter and roof structure erection (KD-RAMS-CJ-006), and work on fragile roofs (Roofing trade documents).

SITE-SPECIFIC SCOPE, LOCATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

3 RISK ASSESSMENT — SCORE EACH RISK FOR THIS SITE, THEN ADD WHAT IS MISSING

The hazards and controls below are the starting point for this activity, written by a working main contractor. They are not complete for your site until a competent person has scored each risk, added the site-specific hazards, and struck out anything that does not apply. Rate risks High / Medium / Low before and after controls.

1. Contact with saw blades and cutters — kickback and cut injuries			At risk: Operatives	
Controls: Guards in place and adjusted; push sticks for rip cuts; blades sharp and suited to the material; no gloves at rotating blades; repairs and blade changes only with the tool isolated; competence to PUWER for every saw user.				
INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN
2. Wood dust from cutting, routing and sanding — hardwood dust is a carcinogen			At risk: Operatives, others in the area	
Controls: On-tool extraction (M-class) for every power cut and sanding operation; designated cutting stations with extraction and segregation; FFP3 RPE (face-fit tested) where extraction cannot adequately control exposure; no dry sweeping — vacuum only.				
INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN
3. Nail gun and cartridge tool injuries			At risk: Operatives, others nearby	
Controls: Sequential-trip triggers; never bypass the contact safety; hands clear of the line of fire; disconnect air/battery before clearing jams; cartridge tools only by trained operatives with the tool's registration where the site requires it.				
INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN
4. Work at height from steps, podiums, towers or MEWPs			At risk: Operatives, and anyone below	
Controls: Select access by the Work at Height hierarchy — podium or tower before steps; MEWPs by trained (IPAF) operators only. Inspect access equipment before use, establish an exclusion below overhead work, and secure tools and materials against dropping.				
INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN
5. Manual handling of boards, materials and components			At risk: Operatives	
Controls: Mechanical aids first — trolleys, board lifters, hoists. Two-person lifts for boards and long components; order materials in manageable sizes; plan storage close to the workface; keep carrying routes clear and lit.				
INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN
6. Hand-arm vibration from power tools			At risk: Operatives	
Controls: Select low-vibration tools, keep cutting edges sharp, rotate operatives to keep exposure below the action value, and record trigger time where the assessment requires it.				
INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

7. Noise from cutting, fixing and plant*At risk: Operatives, others in the area*

Controls: Select quieter methods and tools where practicable; hearing protection in designated zones and for noisy operations; agree noisy-works windows with the occupier in occupied buildings.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

8. Slips, trips and housekeeping*At risk: Everyone in the work area*

Controls: Keep the workforce clear, remove waste and offcuts as they are created, route leads at high level or under mats, and maintain task lighting.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

9. Falls through incomplete floors and openings*At risk: Operatives, those below*

Controls: Board out or guard every opening as it is formed; joisted areas boarded progressively — no walking joists; edge protection before floor work at height starts.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

Site-specific hazards not listed above — every site has at least one:

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	CONTROLS	INITIAL H/...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- Review the engineer's drawings and fixing schedules; confirm spans, gradings and connection details before cutting.
- Establish a cutting station with extraction; materials stored flat and dry, close to the workforce.
- Install floor joists to the design; strutting and noggins as specified; board out progressively — protect every opening as it is formed.
- Erect studwork plumb and true; double up at openings to the schedule; sheath where specified.
- Roof carpentry to the design with the temporary bracing the erection sequence requires; never remove bracing early.
- Fix with the specified nails/screws; nailers used to the controls above.
- Clear offcuts and dust by vacuum as work proceeds.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Cutting station with M-class extraction

First-fix nailers

Circular and mitre saws

Podium steps / towers

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

6 PPE — THE LAST LINE OF CONTROL, NOT THE FIRST

Head protection

Gloves — task-rated

FFP3 RPE at cutting stations

Safety footwear

Eye protection

High visibility

Hearing protection

RPE TYPE, FACE-FIT STATUS, AND ANY OTHER PPE REQUIRED

7 PERMITS REQUIRED BEFORE THIS WORK STARTS

A permit authorises this work in that place, on that day. It extends the safe system of work in this document — it does not replace it (HSE HSG250). The site issues the permit; record its number before work starts.

KD-PTW-WH-006 — Work at Height Permit

Where the site requires a permit for roof or floor-edge carpentry.

PERMIT NUMBER

8 EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS — COMPLETE FOR THIS SITE

Form section for Emergency Arrangements with fields for First Aider, Nearest A&E, Assembly Point, Alarm, Access, and Spill Response.

9 BRIEFING RECORD — EVERYONE WORKING UNDER THIS RAMS SIGNS BEFORE STARTING

By signing you confirm the contents of this RAMS have been explained to you, you understand the hazards and controls, and you will work to the sequence stated. Tell the supervisor if the work or the site does not match this document — work stops until it does.

Table with 4 columns: NAME, COMPANY, SIGNATURE, DATE. Multiple empty rows for signing.

10 PREPARED AND ACCEPTED

Prepared / adapted for this site by — I confirm I have adapted this document to the site, scored the risks, and that it describes how the work will actually be done.

Form section for Prepared/Adapted with fields for Printed Name, Role, Company, Signature, Date, and Time.

Accepted for the site by — principal contractor or site manager review.

Form section for Accepted with fields for Printed Name, Role, Company, Signature, Date, and Time.

Review this RAMS if the work, the site or the law changes, and at least before each new phase of the works. Flatten the completed PDF before filing so the record cannot be silently edited.

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Table with 5 columns: Rev, Date, Class, What changed, Authorised by. Contains revision history entries D0, D1, D2, and A0.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.