

Risk Assessment for Steph West Harpist
Updated May 2021

Step 1: Spot the hazards		Step 2: Assess the risk	Step 3: Fix the problem	Who & when	Reassess the risk
Identify the task	What are the risks associated with each activity?				
Moving the harp and kit between car and venue	The musician may injure themselves through bad technique or posture carrying heavy weights.	Moderate	Park as close to the venue as possible to reduce carrying distances. Use trolleys wherever possible and think about maximum packing weights.	Venue in advance to assist musician with parking in advance. Musician to think about carrying solutions, on the day and in advance.	Low
Leaving a harp unattended	The harp may fall over, damaging a bystander, the fixtures and fittings of the venue or the instrument	Moderate	When leaving the harp unattended, leave it with a chair directly behind it. Only leave it on smooth level ground. Try and place the musician away from thoroughfares to prevent audience / guests from bumping into the instrument.	Musician to assess situation for the harp, venue to have appropriate places for a musician to play from.	Low
Using an amplifier	The volume may be too loud, risking hearing damage.	Moderate	Check audio equipment is connected properly before turning it on. Turn audio equipment up slowly and to an appropriate volume.	Musician on the day	Low
	When using equipment that is plugged into the mains, someone may get electrocuted	Moderate	Maintain and check on equipment regularly. Use a battery powered amp which doesn't plug into the mains.	Musician in advance	Low

Playing the harp - damage to the musician	The musician may injure themselves through bad technique or posture, playing for too long or in too cold an environment.	High	<p>Musician to invest time and care in understanding and maintaining good technique, posture and health.</p> <p>Venue and hirers to not expect musician to play outside in inclement weather. Venue to provide heating if the room to play indoors is too cold (approx below 16 degrees). Venue to provide an appropriate room for musician to warm up in.</p>	<p>Musician in advance and on the day.</p> <p>Venue and hirers on the day.</p>	Moderate
Playing the harp - damage to the instrument	The instrument may get damaged if it gets wet in bad weather.	Moderate	Venue and hirers to not expect musician to play outside in inclement weather.	Venue and hirers on the day.	Low