

## ULTRA ACCESS

### How to write a Rescue Plan

Considerations to allow for and precautions to make...

What is a **Rescue Plan**?

They are legally required to be written and adhered to, as per the **Working at Height Regulations 2005** and the **Confined Spaces Regulations 1997** which both legally mandate employers to properly plan for emergencies and the rescue of their operatives when primarily using working at height safety equipment, like for instance: Harnesses / Lanyards, etc.

**ULTRA ACCESS** has a considerable amount of experience writing and advising on these, due to our vast working at height knowledge... and we would usually base ours on a **10-point** plan to follow and with considerations to be thought about in any **Rescue Plans** made:

1. **Purpose**: what is the purpose of the plan and what is it trying to achieve?
2. **Scope**: who does the plan apply to, and who could be affected by it?
3. **Responsibilities**: who is responsible for what actions, in the event of the plan needing to be executed? - there would be many different roles to define within the plan.
4. **Working Environment**: does the type of scaffolding work being done, and the type of project and the environment / nature of the work increase the risks involved?
5. **Emergency Contacts**: simple to work out and common sense to include.
6. (the actual) **Rescue Procedures**: a step-by-step of what, when and how to act in the event of a fall from height.
7. **Equipment Required**: be it something like "Gotcha", or another type - there could be a whole number of types - depending on the work being carried out.
8. **Training Required**: with certificates for proof added to the plan, and how often you carry out exercises / drills on how to use said equipment, keeping it fresh in the minds of the scaffolders.
9. **After the Rescue**: how could you aid the 999 emergency services (should they need to attend the incident) - are there set access routes, and safe places to park their own vehicles, etc?
10. **Lessons Learned**: a concise and clear path laid out for improvements and how to not make the "same mistakes" if any, as last time. Reflection and resolution.

Theres also various types of rescue kits available to buy online.

**GOTCHA** is one of the most popular kits in use within the British Scaffolding Industry, with its entire set up, contained in a durable and water resistant bag, making it easy to transport, but durable enough to stay with the team - out in the elements, whilst they carry out their daily (high risk) tasks.

Your **Rescue Plans** should be built around the kits that you use, to make them accurate and easy to follow if the time comes that they need to be deployed.

In short: **All working @ height or confined space work MUST have a suitably planned rescue strategy and kit, as per Health and Safety law...**



ULTRA ACCESS  
Scaffold Technical Support

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