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Risk Assessment

Introduction

This risk assessment is for the musical duo, Lauren & Hardy, performing in small pubs, clubs, and similar venues in the UK. The assessment considers the potential hazards associated with live performances, including slips, trips, falls, electrical safety, fire safety, and public liability.

Risk Assessment Matrix

Task/Activity	Hazard	Who is at Risk?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls	Likelihood (1-5)	Severity (1-5)	Risk Score	Notes/Action Required
Set up and Performance	Slips, trips, and falls due to trailing cables or uneven floors.	Performers, venue staff, and audience members.	Clear stage area, non-slip flooring where possible, and proper cable management.	Use gaffer tape to secure all cables to the floor. Ensure walkways are clear and well-lit. Consider using cable ramps in high-traffic areas.	3	3	9 (High)	This risk needs immediate attention. Ensure all cables are secured before the audience arrives.

	Doc Title: Lauren & Hardy Risk Assessment	Doc #: L&H170925_02
	Rev #: 1.0	Rev Date: 17 th Sept 2025
	Signed: <i>C.H.</i>	Page 1 of 5



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Set up and Performance	Electrical safety (faulty equipment, electric shock, fire).	Performers, venue staff, and audience members.	All supplied equipment is visually inspected before use and is recently PAT tested.	Use RCD (Residual Current Device) protected power boards. Do not overload power outlets. Regularly inspect equipment for damaged cables or plugs.	2	5	10 (High)	A competent person should annually check all electrical equipment. Do not use any equipment with a damaged cable or plug.
Set up and Performance	Noise exposure (hearing damage).	Performers, audience members, and venue staff.	Monitoring volume levels to avoid excessive exposure.	Use earplugs for performers and sound engineers. Consider placing speakers away from high-traffic areas. Inform the audience if noise levels may exceed a certain decibel level.	3	4	12 (High)	Performers should wear hearing protection during sound checks and performances.
Set up and Performance	Manual handling of heavy equipment.	Performers and venue staff.	Use trolleys to transport heavy equipment where possible. Assign sufficient personnel to handle heavy items.	Use proper lifting techniques to minimise strain and injury. Minimise the distance that equipment needs to be carried.	3	3	9 (High)	All members should be reminded of safe lifting procedures before the event.

	Doc Title: Lauren & Hardy Risk Assessment	Doc #: L&H170925_02
	Rev #: 1.0	Rev Date: 17 th Sept 2025
	Signed: <i>CH</i>	Page 2 of 5



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Set up and Performance	Fire safety (equipment overheating, blocked exits).	Performers, venue staff, and audience members.	Familiarity with venue fire exits and location of extinguishers.	Ensure fire equipment or people do not block exits. Check equipment for overheating and do not place near flammable materials.	2	5	10 (High)	You should ask the venue for their fire safety procedures and evacuation plan upon arrival.
Set up and Performance	Public liability (injury to audience members, property damage).	Audience members and performers.	Public liability insurance in place.	Maintain clear signage. Ensure safe equipment handling and setup. Keep the performance area separated from the audience where possible.	2	4	8 (Medium)	This is a continuous risk that requires diligence and safe practices at all times.

Risk Rating Key

- **High:** Significant likelihood of harm resulting in severe injury or death.
- **Medium:** Moderate likelihood of harm resulting in minor to moderate injury.
- **Low:** Low likelihood of harm resulting in minor injury.

	Doc Title: Lauren & Hardy Risk Assessment	Doc #: L&H170925_02
	Rev #: 1.0	Rev Date: 17 th Sept 2025
	Signed: <i>CH</i>	Page 3 of 5



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Risk Reduction Measures

- **Slips, trips, and falls:** Ensure the stage area is clear of obstructions, use non-slip mats where necessary, and maintain adequate lighting. Secure all equipment to prevent falls.
- **Electrical safety:** Regularly PAT test all equipment, use RCD protected power boards, and implement proper cable management. Check equipment before each performance.
- **Fire safety:** Familiarize yourselves with the venue's fire safety procedures, ensure fire exits are clear, and know the location of fire extinguishers. Consider fire safety training.
- **Public liability:** Maintain public liability insurance, handle equipment carefully, and use clear signage to warn of potential hazards.
- **Vehicle accidents:** Adhere to road traffic regulations, maintain the vehicle in good condition, and ensure adequate insurance coverage.
- **Noise exposure:** Use earplugs or other hearing protection when exposed to high noise levels and consider regular hearing checks.

Review and Update

This risk assessment should be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary to reflect changes in circumstances or latest information.

	Doc Title: Lauren & Hardy Risk Assessment	Doc #: L&H170925_02
	Rev #: 1.0	Rev Date: 17 th Sept 2025
	Signed: <i>CH</i>	Page 4 of 5



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Note: This risk assessment provides a general overview and may not cover all potential hazards. It is essential to conduct a site-specific risk assessment for each venue before a performance.

By following the recommendations in this risk assessment, Lauren & Hardy can significantly reduce the likelihood of accidents and injuries.

	Doc Title: Lauren & Hardy Risk Assessment	Doc #: L&H170925_02
	Rev #: 1.0	Rev Date: 17 th Sept 2025
	Signed: C.H.	Page 5 of 5