

This is one unit...

For more detailed information on calculating units see www.units.nhs.uk/unitCalculator.html



Half pint of "regular" beer, lager or cider



1 very small glass of wine (9%)



1 single measure of spirits



1 small glass of sherry



1 single measure of aperitifs



...and each of these is more than one unit



A pint of "regular" beer, lager or cider



A pint of "strong"/"premium" beer, lager or cider



Alcopop or a 275ml bottle of regular lager



440ml can of "regular" lager or cider



440ml can of "super strength" lager



250ml glass of wine (12%)



Bottle of wine (12.5%)

Questions	Scoring system					Your score
	0	1	2	3	4	
How often do you have a drink containing alcohol?	Never	Monthly or less	2 - 4 times per month	2 - 3 times per week	4+ times per week	
How many units of alcohol do you drink on a typical day when you are drinking?	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 6	7 - 9	10+	
How often have you had 6 or more units if female, or 8 or more if male, on a single occasion in the last year?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
					Total Score	

In adults a total score of 5+ indicates increasing or higher risk drinking. For more information contact your local GP, local alcohol clinics, or Drinkline on 0800 917 82 82.

Lower Risk: Men, no more than 3-4 units a day regularly. Women, no more than 2-3 units.

Increasing Risk: Men, more than 3-4 units per day on a regular basis. Women, no more than 2-3 units.

Higher Risk: Men, more than 8 units per day on a regular basis, or more than 50 units per week. Women, more than 6 units per day on a regular basis or more than 35 units per week.

There are times when you will be at risk even after one or two units. For example, with strenuous exercise, operating heavy machinery, driving or if you are on certain medication.

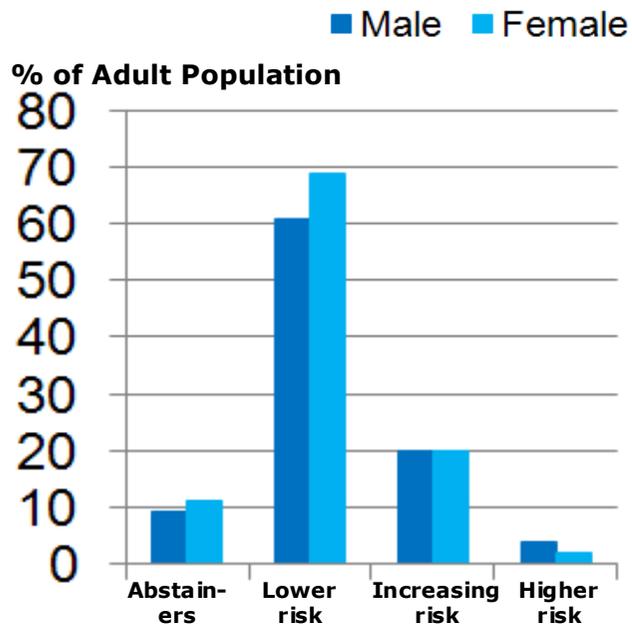
If you are pregnant or trying to conceive, it is recommended that you avoid drinking alcohol. But if you do drink, it should be no more than 1-2 units once or twice a week and avoid getting drunk.

Your screening score may suggest you are drinking at a rate that increases your risk of harm and you might be at risk of problems in the future.

What do you think?



What's everyone else like?



Making your plan

- When bored or stressed have a workout instead of drinking
- Avoid going to the pub after work
- Plan activities and tasks at those times you would usually drink
- When you do drink, set yourself a limit and stick to it
- Have your first drink after starting to eat
- Quench your thirst with non-alcohol drinks before and in-between alcoholic drinks
- Avoid drinking in rounds or in large groups
- Switch to low alcohol beer/lager
- Avoid or limit the time spent with "heavy" drinking friends

The benefits of cutting down Psychological/Social/Financial

- Improved mood
- Improved relationships
- Reduced risks of drink driving
- Save money

Physical

- Sleep better
- More energy
- Lose weight
- No hangovers
- Reduced risk of injury
- Improved memory
- Better physical shape
- Reduced risk of high blood pressure
- Reduced risk of cancer
- Reduced risks of liver disease
- Reduced risks of brain damage

What targets should you aim for?

Men

Should not regularly drink more than 3–4 units of alcohol a day.

Women

Should not regularly drink more than 2–3 units a day

'Regularly' means drinking every day or most days of the week.

You should also take a break for 48 hours after a heavy session to let your body recover.

What is your personal target?

This brief advice is based on the "How Much Is Too Much?" Simple Structured Advice Intervention Tool, developed by Newcastle University and the Drink Less materials originally developed at the University of Sydney as part of a W.H.O. collaborative study.

