

What is your relationship with alcohol?

ALCOHOL

People are all different. We have different levels of alcohol tolerance and react in different ways. Most of us drink with friends because it's fun. Drinking alcohol makes some people happy and excited while others become tired, aggressive or depressed. Most people can tell when it's time to stop drinking, but others find it hard to set limits. Alcohol consumption can affect your health partly due to regular alcohol intake which can lead to long-term effects on the organs of your body, and partly due to high consumption on individual occasions, known as drinking to intoxication or binge drinking.

At-risk alcohol use is when your alcohol consumption can affect your health but there is no such thing as a safe level of alcohol consumption.





GUIDELINES

AT-RISK USE FOR MEN

High average consumption 10 or more standard glasses/week

Heavy drinking 4 or more standard glasses on the same occasion, once a month



Examples of a standard glass are

12-15 cl wine** 2x 33 cl low-alcohol beer 50 cl medium-strength beer 33 cl strong beer 4 cl strong spirits

**The amount depends on the strength/alcohol content by volume of the wine

CHECK YOUR CONSUMPTION

Write down the number of standard glasses you drink in a week. Then add up the number of glasses

	Low-alcohol beer 2x33 cl	Medium-strength beer 50 cl can	Strong beer 33 cl bottle	Wine 12-15 cl glass	Strong spirits 4 cl glass
Monday					
Tuesday					
Wednesday					
Thursday					
Friday					
Saturday					
Sunday					
Total					

Compare your totals with the guidelines on at-risk use. Whereabouts are you? If your alcohol consumption shows that you are at risk, fill in the table for another week and see what opportunities you have to make changes. Where can you cut down?

	Low-alcohol beer 2x33 cl	Medium-strength beer 50 cl can	Strong beer 33 cl bottle	Wine 12-15 cl glass	Strong spirits 4 cl glass
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Tuesday					
Wednesday					
Thursday					
Friday					
Saturday					
Sunday					
Total					

YOUR AT-RISK LIMIT COULD BE LOWER IF

- \rightarrow you have a health problem that can be affected by alcohol
- → you are taking medication
- \rightarrow you are suffering mental health problems
- → you have alcohol problems in your family

How much you can drink without being harmed by your alcohol consumption is different for different people. The guidelines should be viewed as general.

DRINK...

- A glass of water in between each alcoholic drink
- Non-alcoholic alternatives
- Slowly

DRICK INTE...

- Because you are thirsty
- On an empty stomach
- If you feel tired, sad or angry. Alcohol will make it worse.

HIGHER RISK

If you drink alcohol to an at-risk level, there is a **higher risk** of suffering social or healthrelated problems such as:

- → relationship problems
- → sleep disorders
- → tiredness
- irritation
- → headaches
- accidents
- ➔ digestive problems
- anxiety
- depression
- high blood pressure

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→ cancer

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ALCOHOL

www.1177.se Read under Health and lifestyle /Alcohol and tobacco www.alkoholhjalpen.se www.omsystembolaget.se/alkoholproblematik Alkohollinjen phone line 020-84 44 48

If you need advice and support, contact your health centre or primary care health unit on 0470-59 22 90

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