NPORS

COURSE DURATIONS

TRAINING AND TESTING RATIOS

NPORS | May 2026 | V2

NPORS COURSE DURATIONS

TRAINING AND TESTING RATIOS

The following course training and testing ratios are the maximum numbers set by the scheme. They cover novice operator training and testing, through to experienced worker tests. The ratios given are based on One instructor and One machine in a standard eight hour working day. The novice course durations stated are the maximum durations recommended by the scheme, however, these durations can be extended to suit the needs of learners where appropriate.

Where training durations are to be reduced due to operator experience then correct profiling must take place, and the course duration may only then be reduced once the instructor is satisfied that the operator/s are suitably experienced to undertake a shorter duration course. Correctly completed profiling paperwork must accompany all test paperwork when submitting applications on reduced duration courses or experienced worker tests. It should be noted that where durations are reduced due to reduced course objectives, restricted cards may be issued.

Stated ratios are: - Trainee: Machine: Instructor:

When outdoor training and testing is being conducted, Instructors must consider weather and lighting conditions. These factors may necessitate an adjustment to the course timetable or number of tests, in the interests of safety.

There appears to be some confusion over the 3 + 3 combinations that are allowed for Experienced Worker Tests. Please read the following guidance note for clarification of the principle of the 3 + 3 combinations.

In some sections of this ratios document some items have been marked with * alongside them to indicate that they may be combined with other categories when conducting Experienced Worker Tests.

However, the 3 + 3 combinations are only allowed within the sections they have been identified in i.e. cranes/lifting etc. 3 + 3 combinations are not allowed across different sections and are only allowed as indicated beneath each section.

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Lift Trucks

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N001	Industrial Counterbalanced Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N003	Reach Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N004	Lorry Mounted Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N005	Order Picker	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	4
N006	Side Loader	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N007	Narrow Aisle Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N008	Pallet / Stacker Truck	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	4
N009	Rough Terrain Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N010	Telescopic Handler	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N012	Container Handler	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N013	Pivot Steer Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N135	Multi Directional Lift Truck	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4

Accessing Equipment

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N108	MEWP Boom	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	6*
N109	MEWP Scissor	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	6*
N111	Hoist	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	6
N119	Mast Climber	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N706	Mobile Towers	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	8

For items marked * in this section only, the maximum number of stated EWT's may be conducted or a combination of 3 + 3 No other 3 + 3 combinations with items from other sections will be allowed.

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Cranes / Lifting

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N014	Marine Knuckle Boom Crane	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	1 Day Refresher
N019	Report of Thorough Examination	8:1:1	2 Days	8	8	1 Day Refresher
N039	Plant Inspector – Thorough Examination	6:1:1	5 Days	6	6	1 Day Refresher
N046	Rigging and Fleeting Loads Lift Planner	6:1:1	2 Days	6	6	1 Day Refresher
N047	Rigging and Fleeting Loads	6:1:1	3 Days	6	6	1 Day Refresher
N100	Excavator as a Crane (Added on to existing NPORS Excavator card only)	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6*
N100	Excavator as a Crane (Novice)	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6*
N101	Mobile Crane	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4*
N102	Tower Crane	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4*
N103	Crawler Crane	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4*
N104	Overhead Crane	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	4*
N105	Quay Crane	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N106	Log Handler	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N107	Lorry Loader	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	4*
N114	Overhead Container Gantry Crane	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	4
N115	Remote Control Tower Crane	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	4*
N136	Boat Hoist	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	4
N138	Telescopic Handler Suspended Loads (Added on to existing NPORS Telehandler card only.)	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6*
N138	Telescopic Handler Suspended Loads (Novice)	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6*
N140	Compact Crane	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4*
N242	Side Boom	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N401	Appointed Person	6:1:1	5 Days	6	6	1 Day Refresher
N402	Slinger / Signaller	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6*
N405	Crane / Lift Supervisor	6:1:1	3 Days	6	6	1 Day Refresher
N722	Materials Re-Handler	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N051	Wind Turbine Lifting Operations	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	N/A

For items marked * in this section only, the maximum number of stated EWT's may be conducted or a combination of 3 + 3 when combined with N402 Slinger / Signaller only. No other 3 + 3 combinations with items from other sections will be allowed.

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Earthmoving Machinery

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N016	Micro Excavator 360° up to 1 Tonne	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4*
N020	Tiltrotator System	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	4
N021	Suction Excavator	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N030	Machine Control Systems	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	4
N116	Dragline	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4
N139	Forward Tipping Mini Dumper up to 1 Tonne	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6*
N201	Excavator 180°	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4*
N202	Excavator 360°	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4*
N203	Trencher	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N204	Forward Tipping Dumper	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6*
N205	Rear Tipping Dumper	3:1:1	4 Days	3	3	6*
N206	Loader Compressor	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6*
N209	Loading Shovel	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6*
N209J8	Articulated Telescopic Loader with Forks	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N212	Skidsteer Loader	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6*
N215	Dozer	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	4
N223	Scraper	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	6
N224	Landfill Compactor	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N240	Grader	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	4
N241	Pay Welder	3:1:1	4 Days	3	3	6
N601	Agricultural Tractor	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	4
N726	Quick Hitch Awareness	10:1:1	1 Day	10	10	10

For items marked * in this section only, the maximum number of stated EWT's may be conducted or a combination of 3 + 3 when combined with N204 Forward Tipping Dumper or N205 Rear Tipping Dumper only. No other 3 + 3 combinations with items from other sections will be allowed.

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Street Works

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N214	Road Roller	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N216	Road Planer	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6
N217	Road Sweeper	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6
N220	Paver	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6
N244	Chipper	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6
N609	Winching & Recovery	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N802	Gritter / Snowplough	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6

Transportation

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N027	Excavation Marshal - Banksperson	3:1:1	1 Day	3	3	6
N029	Refuse Collection Vehicle	6:1:1	2 Days	6	6	6
N120	Plant Loader & Securer	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6
N210	Tow Tractor	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6
N219	Skip Loader	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N225	Multi Lift & Drop – Hook Loader Vehicle	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N243	Shunter Vehicle	3:1:1	4 Days	3	3	6
N607	4 x 4 Off Road Vehicle	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6
N608	All- Terrain Vehicle	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6
N045	Safe Use of Mobile Loading Ramps	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	N/A

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Small Equipment

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N017	Abrasive Wheels – Hand Held Cut off Saw	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N025	Concrete Cutting Chainsaw	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	N/A
N301A	Abrasive Wheels Awareness	6:1:1	½ Day	6	6	N/A
N301	Abrasive Wheels with Practical Cutting / Grinding	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N302	Bench Saw	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N303	Circular Saw	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N304	Cable Avoidance Tool	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N602	Chainsaw – Maintenance and Cross Cutting	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	N/A
N603	Wood Chipper / Shredder	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6
N604	Grass Cutters / Mowers	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6
N605	Strimmer / Brushcutter	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6
N606	Stump Grinder	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6
N610	Hand Held Hedge Trimmer	4:1:1	2 Days	4	4	6
N710	Cartridge Tools	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N048	Powered Handheld Breaker	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N033	Puller Winch	4:1:1	1 Day	4	4	6
N038	High Pressure Water Jetting	3:1:1	1 Day	3	3	N/A
N049	Shoring (Install, Inspect, Remove)	8:1:1	3 Days	8	8	N/A
N050	3D GPS Machine Control System	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	4
N054	High Pressure Air Lance	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A

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Miscellaneous Equipment

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N015	Soil Displacement Hammer	6:1:1	2 Days	6	6	6
N022	Piling Rig Attendant	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	3
N026	Roll Crusher – Packer	3:1:1	2 Days	3	3	6
N130	Horizontal Directional Drilling Rig	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6
N207	Crusher	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6*
N208	Screener	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6*
N211	Concrete Pump (Mobile)	3:1:1	5 Days	3	3	6
N221	Piling Rig	3:1:1	10 Days	3	3	3
N721	Static Concrete Placing Boom	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6
N040	Soil Stabiliser	4:1:1	5 Days	4	4	6
N041	Post Rammer	3:1:1	3 Days	3	3	6

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Health & Safety Related Courses

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
N031	Asbestos Awareness	12:1	½ Day	12	12	N/A
N034	Plant Supervisor Awareness	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N035	MEWP Supervisor Awareness	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N036	FLT Supervisor Awareness	6:1:1	1 Day	6	6	N/A
N132	Plant Mover – Non-Operational Duties	See Activity Guidelines	2 Days	18	18	24
N133	Plant Machinery Marshal	3:1:1	1 Day	3	3	6
N403	Vehicle Marshal	3:1:1	1 Day	3	3	6
N404	Safe Working at Height	10:1:1	½ Day	10	10	N/A
N702A	Confined Spaces – Low Risk	10:1:1	1 Day	10	10	1 Day Refresher
N702B	Confined Spaces – Medium Risk	6:1:1	2 Days	6	6	1 Day Refresher
N702C	Confined Spaces – High Risk	6:1:1	3 Days	6	6	2 Day Refresher
N703	Fire Warden	8:1:1	½ Day	8	8	N/A
N704	Manual Handling	10:1:1	½ Day	10	10	N/A
N711	Safe Use of Ladders and Ladders	10:1:1	½ Day	10	10	N/A
N714	Safety at Street and Road Works	8:1:1	1 Day	8	8	N/A
N723	Harness and Fall Arrest	10:1:1	½ Day	10	10	N/A
S030	Port Safety Passport	12:1	1 Day	12	12	N/A
N053	Scaffolding Appreciation	10:1:1	1 Day	10	10	N/A

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Construction Site Safety Scheme

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	Max number of experienced worker tests
S001	Site Safety Awareness	20	1 Day	20	20	N/A
S029	Construction Site Safety Supervisor	20	2 Days	20	20	N/A
S031	Construction Site Safety Manager	20	5 Days	20	20	N/A

Cat No.	Machine Type	Max Ratio Novice Course	Novice Course Duration	Max number of novice tests	Max number of refresher tests	No. of days required for refresher training
S032	Construction Site Safety Manager - Refresher	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	2 Days
S033	Construction Site Safety Supervisor - Refresher	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	1 Day

SUPPORT AND STANDARDS

YOU CAN COUNT ON

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