

# One-Minute Risk Assessment

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*This material was inspired by "The One-Minute Risk Assessment Tool" by Amrit Tiwana and Mark Keil. The Opportunity/Risk Profile diagram is part of the TOM PATERSON PROCESS™ Stratop Church ([www.paterσονcenter.com](http://www.paterσονcenter.com)).*

New churches must be flexible, adaptive and creative in the way they manage their activities. They must also be fast. The six-month, committee-based process of established churches simply is not an allowable luxury for new churches (it is doubtful it is effective for established churches either).

Since church planting is already a risky enterprise new church leaders need a tool that will provide them some means to gauge risk when making strategic ministry decisions. The simple risk assessment worksheet provides a quick means to assess ministry program and system decisions in a way that allows consistency and comparability. Through consistent use church leaders should develop an informed intuition that could help them make better decisions more consistently.

1) On a scale of 1-10, where 1 is low and 10 is high, how would you characterize this opportunity compared to other activities in your church?					
2) Multiply your rating by the provided weight and sum the results for the six items.					
3) A higher overall opportunity score indicates a lower level of risk.					
4) Use the table below as a guide for interpreting the risk score.					
Overall risk score	10-28	29-46	47-64	65-82	83-100
Opportunity risk level	High	Moderately high	Medium	Moderately low	Low
Opportunity Characteristic	Rating	X	Weight	=	Score
Kingdom priority (higher priority, higher score)		x	3.0	=	
Fit with church mission, vision and values (better fit higher score)		x	2.0	=	
Experience of people with similar opportunities (more people with appropriate experience scores higher)		x	1.5	=	
Simplicity (skills, planning, size, etc. Simple scores higher)		x	1.5	=	
Low resource demands (fewer resources scores higher)		x	1.0	=	
Opportunity longevity (longer the opportunity will exist, higher the score)		x	1.0	=	
<b>Overall risk score (higher the number, lower the risk)</b>					

*The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations. Psalm 33:11*

# Opportunity-Risk Profile

Once the risk assessment is made for an opportunity it may be beneficial to visually plot the opportunity on the Opportunity-Risk Profile where it can be compared with some already existing ministry activities.

On the appropriate diagonal axis identify the position of the opportunity. Other opportunities that have already been acted upon can be placed on their appropriate axes to give a comparative view between existing and potential ministry activities.

