

CALCULATING FALL CLEARANCE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE



FREE FALL DISTANCE

Free fall distance (FF) is the distance a worker falls before the safety system begins to arrest a fall.



PART TWO

DECELERATION DISTANCE

Deceleration distance (DD) is the distance the worker falls from activation of the safety system until finally coming to a complete stop.

Lanyards manufactured to AS1891.1 are made to limit tear-out length depending on the distance fallen.

Free Fall (FF)	600mm	1000mm	1500mm	2000mm
Deceleration Distance (DD)	300mm	500mm	600mm	900mm

PART THREE

CLEARANCE TO OBSTRUCTION

Clearance to obstruction (C) is a mandatory safety factor of 1 metre.

The distance is specified in the Australian Standard AS/NZS1891.4.



LEGEND:

FF — Free **L** — Lany before te

L — Lanyard length before tear out

S — Distance from anchor to work platform edge

H — Maximum height oflanyard attachment to harness

RD — Required fall clearance

DD — Deceleration distance

C – Clearance to obstruction

ANCHOR

The final calculation adds together free fall distance (FF), deceleration distance (DD) and clearance to obstruction (C).

RD = FF + DD + C



OPTION 1: STANDARD 2M LANYARD

FF = 2 - 1.8 + 1.5m or 1.7m So RD = 1.7 + 0.9 + 1m or 3.6m



↑ Ground and/or first obstruction

OPTION 2: HIGH ANCHOR POINT 1.6M LANYARD

FF = 1.6 - 1.8 + 1.5m or 1.3m So RD = 1.3 + 0.6 + 1m or 2.9m

LOW ANCHOR POINT



Ground and/or first obstruction



Ground and/or first obstruction



1.6M LANYARD

FF = 1.6 - 1 + 1.5m or 2.1m (

So RD = 2.1 + 0.9 + 1m or 4m

OPTION 3:

(07) 3862 2533

heightdynamics.com.au