

Every year, 1 in 3
Alberta seniors will fall.

The good news is that there
are actions you can take to
prevent falls.

Stay Independent.
Prevent Falls.

Find out what actions you can take to prevent falls
and stay independent.

Visit findingbalancealberta.ca for more information,
or call HealthLink at 811.

Finding Balance is a seniors' falls prevention
program developed and coordinated by the Injury
Prevention Centre (IPC) in partnership with
healthcare practitioners and community partners
across Alberta.

Source of checklist:
Rubenstein LZ, Vivrette R, Harker JO, Stevens JA, Kramer BJ. Validating an
evidence-based, self-rated fall risk questionnaire (FRQ) for older adults. J
Safety Res 2011;42(6):493-499.

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Are you at risk
of falling?



Are you at risk of falling?



Circle YES or NO for each statement, then tally your score below.					Steps to lower your risk of falling
Have you fallen in the last 6 months?	YES	2	NO	0	Learn more about how to lower your fall risk to prevent yourself from falling again.
Do you use, or have you been advised to use, a cane or walker to get around safely?	YES	2	NO	0	Talk with a physiotherapist to get the best walking aid for your needs.
Do you sometimes feel unsteady when you are walking?	YES	1	NO	0	Exercise to improve your strength and balance.
Do you have to steady yourself by holding onto furniture when walking at home?	YES	1	NO	0	Talk with a physiotherapist for exercises to improve your balance.
Do you worry about falling?	YES	1	NO	0	Talk to your healthcare provider if you are worried about falling, especially if it stops you from being active.
Do you need to push yourself up with your hands to stand up from a chair?	YES	1	NO	0	Do 30 minutes of physical activity 5 days a week. Strengthening your muscles can reduce your risk of falling.
Do you have trouble stepping up onto a curb?	YES	1	NO	0	Keep active to improve strength and balance.
Do you often have to rush to the toilet?	YES	1	NO	0	Talk with your doctor or health care provider about managing the need to rush to the toilet.
Have you lost any feeling in your feet?	YES	1	NO	0	Talk with your podiatrist or doctor because numbness in your feet can cause a fall.
Do you take medication to help you sleep or improve your mood?	YES	1	NO	0	Review your medications, vitamins, and supplements with your pharmacist or doctor yearly or if your prescription changes.
Do you take medication that sometimes makes you feel lightheaded or more tired than usual?	YES	1	NO	0	Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about medication side effects or causes of light-headedness.
Do you often feel sad or depressed?	YES	1	NO	0	Talk to your healthcare provider or doctor about how you are feeling.
Do you have difficulty avoiding hazards in your path because you don't see well?	YES	1	NO	0	Visit an eye doctor yearly to check your eye health.

Add up the number of points for each YES answer. If you scored 4 points or more, you may be at risk of falling.

TOTAL SCORE:

Talk to your healthcare provider or doctor for more information.