## Risk Assessment in Project Management

Risk Assessment and Management is a key project management practice to ensure that the least number of surprises occur while your project is underway. While we can never predict the future with certainty, we can apply a simple and streamlined risk management process to predict the uncertainties in the projects and minimize the occurrence or impact of these uncertainties. When you're planning your project, risks are still uncertain: they haven't happened yet. But eventually, some of the risks that you plan for do happen, and that's when you have to deal with them. There are four basic ways to handle a risk.

## Benefits to the Individual:

Avoid: The best thing you can do with a risk is avoid it. If you can prevent it from happening, it definitely won't hurt your project. The easiest way to avoid this risk is to walk away from the cliff, but that may not be an option on this project.

Mitigate: If you can't avoid the risk, you can mitigate it. This means taking some sort of action that will cause it to do as little damage to your project as possible.

**Transfer:** One effective way to deal with a risk is to pay someone else to accept it for you. The most common way to do this is to buy insurance.

Accept: When you can't avoid, mitigate, or transfer a risk, then you have to accept it. But even when you accept a risk, at least you've looked at the alternatives and you know what will happen if it occurs. If you can't avoid the risk, and there's nothing you can do to reduce its impact, then accepting it is your only choice.

## **Duration:**

2-3 days

