

# Tree felling observer

- Must be a trained, skilled and experienced tree faller
- Must be able to communicate
- Must always stand in a safe position



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Use a tree felling observer when there's a particularly tricky or dangerous tree to be felled. All felling must stop until the observer arrives.

## **They must be a trained, skilled and experienced tree faller so they can:**

- Help make a felling plan with the tree faller. This includes whether to use machine assistance, or leave the tree standing if it's too dangerous to fell.
- Help identify and manage hazards.
- Watch and warn the faller if something starts to move or fall during the cutting.

## **Observers must be able to communicate with the faller and anyone else involved**

- Must be in visual and/or RT contact – can use hand signals.
- Be aware of anything that could make communication difficult – noisy chainsaws, wearing earmuffs, limited visibility, distance from faller.
- The faller and observer must agree on communication procedures before starting work.

## **Observers must always stand in a safe position**

- They must stay out of the way – and keep checking their position is safe as the felling continues.
- They must be able to easily see the tree the faller is working on, with nothing blocking their view.