

Oswestry Low Back Pain Scale

Please rate the severity of your pain by circling a number below:

No pain

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

Unbearable pain

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Please circle the **ONE NUMBER** in each section which most closely describes your problem.

Section 1 – Pain Intensity

0. The pain comes and goes and is very mild.
1. The pain is mild and does not vary much.
2. The pain comes and goes and is moderate.
3. The pain is moderate and does not vary much.
4. The pain comes and goes and is severe.
5. The pain is severe and does not vary much.

Section 2 – Personal Care (Washing, Dressing, etc.)

0. I would not have to change my way of washing or dressing in order to avoid pain.
1. I do not normally change my way of washing or dressing even though it causes some pain.
2. Washing and dressing increase the pain but I manage not to change my way of doing it.
3. Washing and dressing increase the pain and I find it necessary to change my way of doing it.
4. Because of the pain I am unable to do some washing and dressing without help.
5. Because of the pain I am unable to do any washing and dressing without help.

Section 3 – Lifting

0. I can lift heavy weights without extra pain.
1. I can lift heavy weights but it gives extra pain.
2. Pain prevents me lifting heavy weights off the floor.
3. Pain prevents me lifting heavy weights off the floor, but I can manage if they are conveniently positioned, e.g., on a table.
4. Pain prevents me lifting heavy weights but I can manage light to medium weights if they are conveniently positioned.
5. I can only lift very light weights at most.

Section 4 – Walking

0. I have no pain on walking.
1. I have some pain on walking but it does not increase with distance.
2. I cannot walk more than 1 mile without increasing pain.
3. I cannot walk more than ½ mile without increasing pain.
4. I cannot walk more than ¼ mile without increasing pain.
5. I cannot walk at all without increasing pain.

Section 5 – Sitting

0. I can sit in any chair as long as I like.
1. I can sit only in my favorite chair as long as I like.
2. Pain prevents me from sitting more than 1 hour.
3. Pain prevents me from sitting more than ½ hour.
4. Pain prevents me from sitting more than 10 minutes.
5. I avoid sitting because it increases pain immediately.

Section 6 – Standing

0. I can stand as long as I want without pain.
1. I have some pain on standing but it does not increase with time.
2. I cannot stand for longer than 1 hour without increasing pain.
3. I cannot stand for longer than ½ hour without increasing pain.
4. I cannot stand for longer than 10 minutes without increasing pain.
5. I avoid standing because it increases the pain immediately.

Section 7 – Sleeping

0. I get no pain in bed.
1. I get pain in bed but it does not prevent me from sleeping well.
2. Because of pain my normal nights sleep is reduced by less than one-quarter.
3. Because of pain my normal nights sleep is reduced by less than one-half.
4. Because of pain my normal nights sleep is reduced by less than three-quarters.
5. Pain prevents me from sleeping at all.

Section 8 – Social Life

0. My social life is normal and gives me no pain.
1. My social life is normal but it increases the degree of pain.
2. Pain has no significant effect on my social life apart from limiting my more energetic interests, e.g., dancing, etc.
3. Pain has restricted my social life and I do not go out very often.
4. Pain has restricted my social life to my home.
5. I have hardly any social life because of the pain.

Section 9 – Traveling

0. I get no pain when traveling.
1. I get some pain when traveling but none of my usual forms of travel make it any worse.
2. I get extra pain while traveling but it does not compel me to seek alternate forms of travel.
3. I get extra pain while traveling which compels to seek alternative forms of travel.
4. Pain restricts me to short necessary journeys under ½ hour.
5. Pain restricts all forms of travel.

Section 10 – Changing Degree of Pain

0. My pain is rapidly getting better.
1. My pain fluctuates but is definitely getting better.
2. My pain seems to be getting better but improvement is slow.
3. My pain is neither getting better or worse.
4. My pain is gradually worsening.
5. My pain is rapidly worsening.

TOTAL _____

Pain Disability Index

Pain Disability Index: The rating scales below are designed to measure the degree to which aspects of your life are disrupted by chronic pain. In other words, we would like to know how much pain is preventing you from doing what you would normally do or from doing it as well as you normally would. Respond to each category indicating the overall impact of pain in your life, not just when pain is at its worst.

For each of the 7 categories of life activity listed, please circle the number on the scale that describes the level of disability you typically experience. A score of 0 means no disability at all, and a score of 10 signifies that all of the activities in which you would normally be involved have been totally disrupted or prevented by your pain.

Family/Home Responsibilities: This category refers to activities of the home or family. It includes chores or duties performed around the house (e.g. yard work) and errands or favors for other family members (e.g. driving the children to school).

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Recreation: This disability includes hobbies, sports, and other similar leisure time activities.

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Social Activity: This category refers to activities, which involve participation with friends and acquaintances other than family members. It includes parties, theater, concerts, dining out, and other social functions.

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Occupation: This category refers to activities that are part of or directly related to one's job. This includes non-paying jobs as well, such as that of a housewife or volunteer.

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Sexual Behavior: This category refers to the frequency and quality of one's sex life.

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Self Care: This category includes activities, which involve personal maintenance and independent daily living (e.g. taking a shower, driving, getting dressed, etc.)

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Life-Support Activities: This category refers to basic life supporting behaviors such as eating, sleeping and breathing.

No Disability 0__ 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__ Worst Disability

Signature _____ Please Print _____

Date _____