

Can the Job Be Done as Planned?

Todd Jerome Jenkins | v1.0 | Reviewed October 9, 2026 | Discussion + field checks

Why this matters

A plan can list the right method while a needed resource is unavailable. Before exposure, compare one important step with what is ready to use. Resolve missing conditions through the approved process before affected work starts.

Objective: Check whether a planned step can be performed with the actual instructions, resources and protection, then resolve a specific gap.

Key hazards or failure points

Tools listed but unavailable; instructions that do not fit; inaccessible work position; a required role assigned elsewhere; time pressure that removes a check; an unofficial workaround hiding a recurring gap.

Practical controls

- Select a consequential step in the current plan. Identify its required starting conditions, tools, instructions, support and protection. Use actual requirements; do not invent staffing ratios or time limits.
- Ask the people doing the work what prevents the approved method from being practical today. Check availability and suitability separately. A delivered item may be wrong, defective or uninspected.
- Assign the missing condition to someone with authority and resources to resolve it. Obtain approval for changes to equipment, access or sequence. Keep affected work held until required conditions and checks are satisfied.

Verify It in the Field

Walk through the selected step on paper or from a protected position. Compare each needed resource with actual availability at the time of use. Record the specific gap rather than a general answer that the crew is ready.

For one important control, identify the governing criterion and required checker. Obtain its actual inspection or other approved verification evidence. Do not substitute a purchase order, staffing plan or promised delivery for a completed readiness check.

After the gap is resolved, review the approved arrangement with affected workers. Confirm required resources, protection and safe access without operating equipment as a demonstration. Record the finding, verifier and time; identify what would invalidate readiness.

Stop and reassess

Hold when the method requires an unavailable resource, unverified protection or an unauthorized workaround. Notify the responsible leader and maintain the task's safe state. Reassess a changed assignment or delayed support. Resume only after the required correction, rechecks and authorization—not a promise to catch up later.

Ask the crew

1. Which requirement is hardest to provide for this step?
2. What is actually available and verified now?
3. Who can resolve the gap before anyone is exposed?

Use the task plan and required specialist decisions before exposure.

Sources: DOE-HDBK-1028-2009, Vol. 2, pp. 122–127 (reference only); OSHA Management Leadership and Hazard Prevention and Control.

Free next step: [JHA/JSA planning & field-verification worksheet](#)

Expanded guidance and separate forms: toddjeromejenkins.com/toolbox-talks/job-plan-feasibility-required-resources

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