Risk Analysis for a Blender, example:

Using and washing a food blender has, potentially, 9 steps – possibly more depending on where the blender is stored and if a dishwasher is used.

1) get blender (possible ergonomic risk depending on storage location),

2) plug in blender (low risk of shock, changes with proximity to water source),

3) add food (assuming it is already prepared, cut, and next to blender),

4) put lid on blender (possible pinch point),

5) pulse contents of blender (possible vibration concerns),

6) pour contents into glass (assume glass is out and next to blender already),

7) remove blade for cleaning (moderate likelihood of getting cut – it's not moving but you still need to get your hand close to the blade, moderate severity of cut – could result in need for stitches, no risk of losing digit),

8) rinse blender and blade (ergonomic concerns, slip concerns),

9) load into dishwasher (ergonomic concerns).

As we can see from this truncated matrix, the high-risk step is removing the blade from the blender to clean it. If someone uses a blender every day, the probability of getting a cut goes up; if someone uses a blender once a year, they have a low probability of getting cut since they have a less frequent exposure to the hazard. The risk is the same for both people in this scenario unless a control measure is put in place.

Probability: low-moderate probability of getting cut given the amount of time the person is exposing themselves to the blade

Severity: possible need for stitches

The next example (car) goes a step further and includes a discussion of control measures.