

Scoring Instructions for the DOSPERT Scale (from Frey, Duncan, and Weber, 2020)

1. The DOSPERT scale provides risk taking items for five (or six) different decision domains shown in the table below. Contrary to the previous DOSPERT scale scoring instructions, the new scoring instructions only require answers for the *Risk-Taking response scale*, asking about the likelihood of engaging in certain risk activity, to assess domain-specific risk taking scores for each domain as well as a domain-general risk taking score.
2. Each DOSPERT scale item is labeled ‘E’, ‘F’ (see *Note*), ‘H/S’, ‘R’, or ‘S’ (remove these labels prior to administering DOSPERT to participants). These letters indicate the subscale to which the item belongs. E = Ethical, F = Financial, H/S = Health/Safety, R = Recreational, and S = Social. *Note*: Optionally, the six financial items can be split into three gambling items (F/G) and three investment items (F/I).
3. Add rating scores across all items of a given subscale (i.e. ‘E’, ‘F’, ‘H/S’, ‘R’, or ‘S’) to obtain the domain score. Either use this sum or divide the domain score by the number of items (i.e., six).

Domain subscale	Item text
Ethical (E)	6. Taking some questionable deductions on your income tax return. (E)
	9. Having an affair with a married man/woman. (E)
	10. Passing off somebody else’s work as your own. (E)
	16. Revealing a friend’s secret to someone else. (E)
	29. Leaving your young children alone at home while running an errand. (E)
	30. Not returning a wallet you found that contains \$200. (E)
Financial (Investment/Gambling) (F/I, F/G)	12. Investing 5% of your annual income in a very speculative stock. (F/I)
	4. Investing 10% of your annual income in a moderate growth mutual fund. (F/I)
	18. Investing 10% of your annual income in a new business venture. (F/I)
	3. Betting a day’s income at the horse races. (F/G)
	14. Betting a day’s income on the outcome of a sporting event (F/G)
	8. Betting a day’s income at a high-stake poker game. (F/G)
Health/Safety (H/S)	5. Drinking heavily at a social function. (H/S)
	15. Engaging in unprotected sex. (H/S)
	17. Driving a car without wearing a seatbelt. (H/S)
	20. Riding a motorcycle without a helmet. (H/S)
	23. Sunbathing without sunscreen. (H/S)
	26. Walking home alone at night in an unsafe area of town. (H/S)
Recreational (R)	2. Going camping in the wilderness. (R)
	11. Going down a ski run that is beyond your ability. (R)
	13. Going whitewater rafting at high water in the spring. (R)
	19. Taking a skydiving class. (R)
	24. Bungee jumping off a tall bridge. (R)
	25. Piloting a small plane. (R)
Social (S)	1. Admitting that your tastes are different from those of a friend. (S)
	7. Disagreeing with an authority figure on a major issue. (S)
	21. Choosing a career that you truly enjoy over a more prestigious one. (S)
	22. Speaking your mind about an unpopular issue in a meeting at work. (S)
	27. Moving to a city far away from your extended family. (S)
	28. Starting a new career in your mid-thirties. (S)

Bifactor analysis of general & domain-specific risk-taking scale

A bifactor model may be useful to simultaneously account for domain-general risk preference while capturing domain-specific risk preferences more distinctively. The domain-specific factors can be thought of as residual factors that explain left over variance—after accounting for the domain-general dimension.

See <https://osf.io/pjt57/> for our implementation of a bifactor-modeling approach (see “stage2_efa” for the exploratory analyses and “stage3_cfa” for the confirmatory analyses; the methodological details are reported in the files stage_i_registration.pdf and stage_II_registration.pdf).

Please note, however, that the implementation of this modeling approach requires a solid sample size (i.e., please do not simply apply this script to any DOSPERT dataset if you are not familiar with exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses and the respective pitfalls and requirements). Also it is important to keep in mind that the latent variables resulting from this modeling approach cannot be directly be compared across different samples / populations, as such latent variables (i.e., factor scores) by definition do not directly map onto the original response scale (see the paper for some analyses concerning the relation between factor scores and traditional DOSPERT scores).

DOSPERT data in ANOVA or general linear model

Some groups may differ in risk-taking preferences. Get the sum or average of each participant per each domain to use them as dependent variables. Analyze using ANOVA or a general linear model.