# **How Do You Improve Your Safety Margin**

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## What Improves Your Safety Margin?

- 1. Tecnical Skills
- 2. Fitness/ability
- 3. Experience
- 4. Knowledge
- 5. Training
- 6. Equipment

Experience, knowledge and training contribute to judgement.

### Difficulty versus Skill:

- High difficulty/low skill equals an epic
- High skill/low difficulty equals recreation
- The right balance between skill and difficulty equals adventure.

### Definition of an Epic:

- A night out or unprepared return in the dark
- Lost or off route for hours
- Key equipment lost or broken
- Accident or injury with slow to no rescue

Most accidents/epics are caused by pilot error with bad planning  $\Rightarrow$  bad decisions  $\Rightarrow$  incidents  $\Rightarrow$  accidents and epics.

#### **Human Factors:**

- Risk tolerance
- Injury, illness, fatigue, stress
- Egos

### How to Avoid an Epic:

- 1. Know your team
- 2. Pick a reasonable objective
- 3. Know your options
- 4. Start early
- 5. Keep your head up and your eyes open
- 6. Anticipate and be prepared
- 7. Recognize problems and deal with them early
- 8. Manage your time
- 9. Debrief every day.