



HIRE IT OR FINANCE IT?

A Scaffolder's Guide to
Equipment Decisions



INTRODUCTION:



The Dilemma

Every scaffolding contractor faces the pivotal decision: should you continue hiring equipment or invest in owning it? While hiring offers flexibility, financing your own scaffolding materials can lead to significant long-term benefits. This guide aims to provide a balanced perspective, helping you make informed decisions that align with your business goals.



01 The Case for Hiring: **When It Makes Sense**

Hiring scaffolding equipment can be advantageous in specific scenarios:

- ▶ **Short-Term Projects:** For jobs lasting a few weeks, hiring avoids the commitment of ownership.
- ▶ **Specialized Equipment Needs:** Unique projects may require specific equipment not commonly used.
- ▶ **Testing New Markets:** If you're exploring new services or regions, hiring allows you to assess viability without large investments.

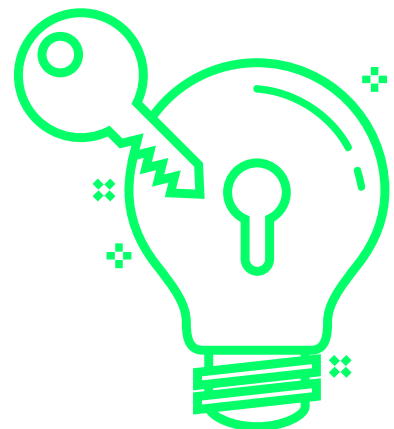
However, while hiring offers these benefits, it's essential to consider the long-term implications on your business's financial health and growth potential.



02 The Power of Ownership: Why Financing Wins

Financing your scaffolding materials transforms your business:

- ▶ **Long-Term Cost Savings:** While hiring costs accumulate over time, financing leads to ownership, eliminating ongoing rental fees.
- ▶ **Asset Building:** Owned equipment becomes a tangible asset, strengthening your company's balance sheet.
- ▶ **Operational Flexibility:** With your own equipment, you're not bound by hire agreements, allowing for more agile project management.
- ▶ **Business Valuation:** Ownership can enhance your company's value, benefiting future sales or expansions.
- ▶ **Tax Advantages:** Financing options often come with tax benefits, such as depreciation and interest deductions



03 Real-World Comparison: Hire vs. Finance

Consider a contractor spending £20,000–£22,000 monthly on equipment hire. The cost to charge up their hire gear to sale was £150,000 + VAT:

- ▶ **Monthly Finance Payment:** £4,855
- ▶ **Monthly Savings:** Over £17,000
- ▶ **Outcome:** After the finance term, the equipment is owned outright, continuing to save on hire costs and adding value to the business.

This example illustrates how financing can lead to substantial savings and asset accumulation over time.

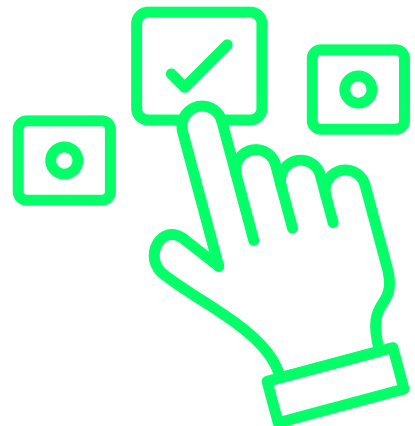


04 Financing Options Tailored for Scaffolders

Several financing solutions cater specifically to the scaffolding industry:

- ▶ **Hire Purchase Agreements:** Spread the cost over time with the option to own the equipment at the end.
- ▶ **VAT Deferral Plans:** Ease cash flow by deferring VAT payments.
- ▶ **Seasonal Payment Structures:** Align payments with your business's cash flow cycles.
- ▶ **Lease-to-Own Options:** Lease equipment with the option to purchase at the end of the term.

Providers like [Scaffold Finance](#) offer scaffolding finance solutions with rates from 4.45% flat, terms ranging from 12 to 60 months, and options to finance various assets, including scaffolding tubes, boards, system scaffolding and more.



05 Making the Transition: From Hire to Ownership

Transitioning from hiring to owning is straightforward:

- ▶ **Assessment:** Evaluate your current hire expenses and identify equipment suitable for purchase.
- ▶ **Financing Consultation:** Engage with finance providers specializing in scaffolding equipment.
- ▶ **Implementation:** Acquire the equipment and integrate it into your operations, phasing out hired gear.
- ▶ **Training and Maintenance:** Ensure your team is trained on the new equipment and establish maintenance routines to prolong asset life.

06 Case Study: Transforming Business Through Financing

A client was spending between £20,000–£22,000 per month on hired materials. By financing £150,000 worth of scaffolding equipment, they reduced their monthly outgoings by over £17,000. This strategic move not only improved cash flow but also built equity in their business, positioning them for future growth.

07 Conclusion: Empower Your Business

While hiring has its place, especially for short-term or specialized needs, financing your scaffolding materials offers substantial benefits. Ownership leads to cost savings, asset accumulation, and greater control over your operations.

Ready to explore financing options? Use our [Scaffolding Materials Finance Calculator](#) to see how ownership can work for you. Or click here for your [Tailored Hire to Finance Quote](#).



By considering the long-term advantages of financing over hiring, you can make strategic decisions that enhance your business's profitability and sustainability

Finance built **for scaffolders**

From scaffolding materials to VAT loans, Scaffold Finance helps you get the finance you need. Fast quotes, clear terms, and flexible options that fit your business.

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A faint, stylized background image of a multi-level scaffolding structure with stairs, rendered in a light blue-grey color.

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