



Heavy Equipment Inspection Checklist

If you're in the business of renting out heavy equipment, an inspection checklist will help you maintain your equipment in safe operating condition, which means saving money in the long run. When used properly and diligently, these checklists will protect your assets and add an extra layer of accountability to ensure your business continues to run smoothly.

What's in this Heavy Equipment Inspection Checklist?

Every equipment inspection form should comprehensively cover the components needed to start and operate a piece of equipment. After all, most operators will know to check the obvious things like oil levels, but it's easy to forget something as minor as battery levels without a proper list.

You'll want to perform three separate checks to ensure your equipment is client-ready: pre-start, warm-up, and shutdown.

Your pre-start check should be the most comprehensive, as you can get under the hood safely to examine the engine. As such, you'll want to spend most of your inspection time here.

Next, you'll want to perform a check once the equipment has had 5 to 10 minutes of warm-up time, allowing you to check for issues like leaks that weren't apparent during the pre-start inspection. This is when you'll want to check for anything that requires power, such as lights and brakes.

Finally, your shutdown should cover three key things: fuel, engine, and safe parking.

Pre-Start Checklist

Before starting the equipment, you'll want to check all of the following:

- Parking: Before you start, ensure that the equipment is securely parked
- Seat Belts: Make sure all belts extend and lock properly
- Fluids and Oil: Check levels
- Visible Leaks: Examine the ground under the equipment
- Undercarriage: Look for worn or broken parts
- Engine: Check hoses, valves, and belts
- Tires: Look for nails or punctures, and check pressure and tread level
- Rims: Look for damage to the rims and loose nuts
- Gauges and Lights in the Interior Cab: Make sure they are in working order

- Battery: Check that the battery is charged and connected
- Suspension: Check for vibration or concerning noises
- Fan Belts: Look for any splits or tearing on belts, and check tension levels
- Cooling System: Look for leaks or damage
- Fuel system: Check the fuel level and look for leaks
- General Condition of Cab Interior: Including horn, mirrors, wipers, and seats

Warm-Up Checklist

After the equipment has had a chance to warm up for several minutes, check the following:

- Horns
- Back-Up Alarms
- Air Filters: Replace if needed
- Lights: Including brakes, headlights, reverse, turn, etc.
- Hydraulics and Fluid Levels
- Brakes: Check for air and fluid leaks

Shutdown Checklist

When shutting down the equipment, make sure to check the following items:

- Fuel Tank: Fill the tank and securely tighten the cap
- Engine: Let the engine idle for a few minutes before shutting off
- Parking: Park the equipment in a safe location

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