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# TOOLROOM

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# Equipment Quarterly Inspection Color Codes

| Month | Quarter Color |
|---|---|
| June | |
| July | |
| August | |
| September | |
| October | |
| November | |
| December | |
| January | |
| February | |
| March | |
| April | |
| May | |

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## Crane Hook and Chain Inspection

Let’s talk about keeping things safe when working with crane hooks and chains. These are critical lifting components, and a little attention can go a long way in preventing serious incidents. Here's a safety moment focusing on their inspection:

**Focus on the Hook:**

- **Start with a visual once-over:** Before each use, take a good look at the hook. Is it bent, twisted, or showing any signs of distortion? Even a slight change in shape can significantly weaken its integrity.
- **Check for cracks:** Pay close attention to areas of high stress, like the throat (the curved part), the saddle (where the load sits), and around the shank (the straight part that connects to the crane). Cracks can propagate quickly under load.
- **Inspect the latch:** Ensure the safety latch is present, functional, and closes securely. A faulty or missing latch can allow the sling or load to slip off.
- **Measure the throat opening:** Over time, the throat opening can widen due to repeated stress. Use a caliper or gauge to check if it's within the manufacturer's specifications. An increased opening indicates potential deformation.
- **Look for wear and gouges:** Check the bearing surfaces for excessive wear or deep gouges. These can create stress concentrations and weaken the hook.

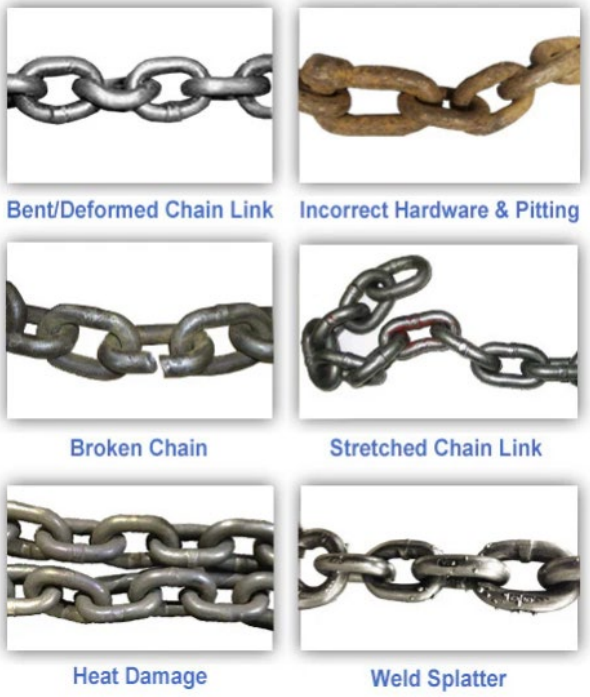
**Now, Let's Move to the Chain:**

- **Visual inspection of each link:** Run your hand along the entire length of the chain, link by link. Look for any signs of stretching, kinking, twisting, bending, or gouging.
- **Check for wear:** Pay particular attention to the contact points between links, as this is where wear is most likely to occur. Excessive wear reduces the chain's diameter and its lifting capacity.
- **Look for corrosion:** Rust and corrosion can significantly weaken the chain. Note any areas of pitting or flaking.
- **Measure link elongation:** Overloading can cause individual links to stretch. Use a measuring tool to check if the length of a specific number of links exceeds the allowable limit specified by the manufacturer.
- **Inspect connecting links and master links:** These are also critical components. Ensure they are not deformed, cracked, or excessively worn.

**Key Takeaways for Everyone:**

- **Frequency matters:** Daily pre-use inspections are crucial. More thorough inspections should be conducted at regular intervals as per your company's policy and relevant regulations.
- **Don't use damaged equipment:** If you find any defects during your inspection, immediately remove the hook or chain from service and report it for repair or replacement. Tag it as "Out of Service" to prevent accidental use.
- **Know the load limits:** Always ensure you are using the correct hook and chain with the appropriate working load limit (WLL) for the lift. Never exceed this limit.
- **Proper storage:** Store hooks and chains properly when not in use to prevent damage and corrosion.

By taking a few moments to thoroughly inspect crane hooks and chains before each lift, we can significantly reduce the risk of equipment failure and ensure a safer working environment for everyone.

| **Chain Removal Criteria – REMOVE IF YOU SEE ANY OF THE BELOW** | |
|---|---|
| Below are some things to look for when inspecting a chain sling for damage:<br><br>• Excessive wear.<br>• Defective welds.<br>• Cracks or breaks.<br>• Excessive wear, nicks or gouges.<br>• Stretched chain links or fittings.<br>• Bent, twisted or deformed chain links or fittings.<br>• Evidence of heat damage.<br>• Excessive pitting or corrosion.<br>• Lack of ability of chain or fittings to hinge freely.<br>• Evidence of weld splatter.<br>• Missing or illegible sling identification. |  |

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SAFETY MOMENT TOOLBOX TALK

## Fall Protection Equipment (Harness and Lanyards) Inspection

To thoroughly inspect a harness and fall protection lanyard, follow these detailed steps before each use and periodically by a competent person:

**Harness Inspection**

1. **Labels:**
    - Ensure all labels are present and legible. These contain crucial information like the manufacturer, model, size, date of manufacture, and warnings.
    - Verify the harness is within its service life according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
    - Check for any markings or writing on load-bearing webbing that could indicate misuse or damage.
2. **Webbing:**
    - Inspect the entire length of all webbing (shoulder, chest, leg, and back straps).
    - Manually inspect by grasping sections of the webbing (6-8 inches apart) and bending it into an inverted "U" shape to create surface tension. This helps reveal damage.
    - Look for:
        - Cuts, nicks, or tears.
        - Frayed or broken fibers. Broken strands often appear as tufts.
        - Pulled or missing stitches.
        - Abrasions or excessive wear, especially in areas where hardware rubs.
        - Chemical damage (discoloration, stiffness, weakening).
        - Heat damage (shiny or hard spots, burns, charring, melting).
        - UV degradation (excessive fading, brittleness).
        - Uneven webbing thickness, which could indicate a prior fall.
        - Foreign objects embedded in the webbing (e.g., staples, duct tape).
        - Damage from paint or grease.
        - Missing straps.
        - Undue stretching.
3. **Stitching:**
    - Examine all stitching for:
        - Pulled or broken stitches.
        - Missing stitches.
        - Cut stitches.
        - Hard or shiny spots indicating heat damage.
        - Discoloration that may indicate chemical damage.
4. **Hardware:**
    - Inspect all metal components, including D-rings (dorsal, side, sternal), buckles (tongue, friction, quick-connect), adjusters, and grommets.
    - Look for:



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- Cracks, breaks, or fractures.
- Dents or distortion (twists, bends). Dents on D-rings may indicate a fall.
- Rough or sharp edges that could damage webbing.
- Rust or corrosion.
- Loose or broken grommets.
- Missing or bent rivets. Rivets should be tight and not movable. The base and burr should be flat against the material.
- Ensure D-rings pivot freely and are at a 90-degree angle to the belt's long axis.
- Check that buckle tongues are not distorted and move freely. The roller should turn freely on the frame. Buckle bars should be straight.
- Verify that all springs in hardware are functional.
- Ensure that buckle tongues properly overlap the buckle frame and move freely.
- Inspect for any unauthorized modifications (e.g., additional holes).

5. **Load Indicators:**
    - If your harness has load indicators (often on the back), check if they have been deployed (frayed stitching or torn sections). Deployment indicates the harness has been subjected to a fall and must be removed from service.
6. **Comfort Components:**
    - If the harness has comfort padding, inspect it for cuts, tears, or excessive wear.

**Fall Protection Lanyard Inspection**

1. **Type of Lanyard:** Be aware of the type of lanyard you are inspecting (webbing, rope, cable, or self-retracting). Each type has specific inspection points.
2. **Webbing Lanyards:**
    - Follow the same webbing inspection procedures as described for harnesses (steps 2 under Harness Inspection). Pay close attention to the area where the lanyard attaches to hardware and any shock-absorbing pack.
    - For lanyards with a shock-absorbing pack, inspect the stitching at both ends of the pack. If there's a view pack window, check the internal webbing for tears or deformation.
    - For internal shock-absorbing lanyards, check the fall indicator warning label (often in the webbing folds). If any words are visible, the lanyard may have experienced a fall.
    - Ensure any wear patches are intact.
3. **Rope Lanyards:**
    - Rotate the entire length of the rope, inspecting from end to end.
    - Look for:
        - Fuzzy, worn, broken, or cut fibers.
        - Changes in rope diameter, which can indicate weakened areas. A variation of more than 5% requires removal from service.
        - Kinks, knots, or unraveling, especially near terminations.

- Damage from chemicals, heat, or UV exposure.
- Any writing or marks on the rope.

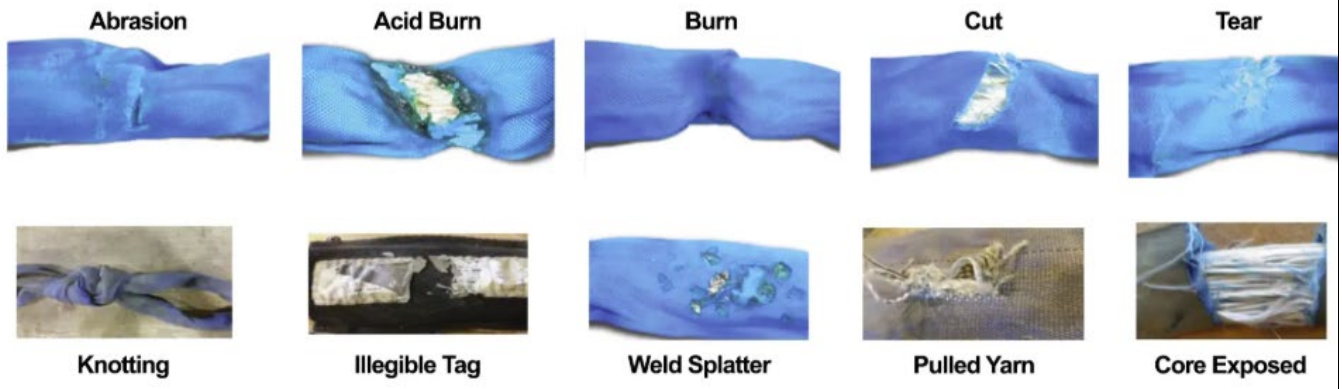
- Inspect thimbles for damage, looseness, or absence. Ensure splices are secure. Check tape or shrink wrap for tears.

4. **Cable Lanyards:**
   - Inspect for broken wires, corrosion, kinks, and separation of strands.
   - Check swaged terminations for security and damage.
5. **Hardware:**
   - Inspect snap hooks, carabiners, and other hardware (buckles, D-rings) for the same issues as described in the Harness Inspection (step 4).
   - Pay close attention to the keeper (latch) on snap hooks and carabiners:
     - Ensure it seats fully into the nose without binding.
     - It should not be bent, distorted, or obstructed.
     - The keeper spring should exert sufficient force to close it firmly.
     - Keeper rocks (if present) should prevent unintentional opening.
     - The locking mechanism should move freely without sticking or jamming.
   - Check for hook and eye distortions, cracks, corrosion, or pitted surfaces.
6. **Energy Absorber (if present):**
   - Visually inspect the energy absorber pack for any signs of deployment (tears, elongation of stitching). Deployed energy absorbers must be replaced.
   - Check for burn holes, tears, or other damage to the outer covering.
   - Inspect stitching where the pack is sewn to the lanyard or hardware for loose strands, rips, or deterioration.
7. **Labels:**
   - Ensure all labels on the lanyard are present and legible.

**If any part of the harness or lanyard fails inspection, remove it from service immediately and do not use it.** Follow your company's procedures for disposal or repair (note that harnesses and most lanyards cannot be repaired and must be replaced).

**Competent Person Inspections:** In addition to pre-use inspections by the user, a competent person (someone with specific training and knowledge) should conduct more thorough, documented inspections at least annually, or more frequently depending on the usage and environmental conditions. Keep records of these periodic inspections.

**Removal Criteria – REMOVE IF YOU SEE ANY OF THE BELOW**







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# Fall Protection: Harness Monthly Inspection

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector Name (Print): _____

Harness Identification (Manufacturer, Model, Size, Serial #): _____

*INSTRUCTIONS*: Inspect the harness *before each use* and monthly by a competent person. Check each item below and mark the appropriate box. If any item fails inspection, remove the harness from service immediately. **Sign and date** the checklist.

| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***1. Labels and Markings*** | | | |
| a. All required labels present? | | | |
| b. Labels are legible? | | | |
| c. Date of manufacture within service life? | | | |
| d. Impact indicator (if present) not deployed? | | | |
| ***2. Webbing*** | | | |
| a. No cuts, tears, or fraying? | | | |
| b. No abrasions or broken fibers? | | | |
| c. No pulled or damaged stitches? | | | |
| d. No discoloration (heat/chemical damage)? | | | |
| e. No hard, shiny, or brittle spots? | | | |
| f. No excessive stretching or deformation? | | | |
| g. No unauthorized modifications (e.g., holes)? | | | |
| h. No mildew or other degradation? | | | |
| i. All straps are present? | | | |
| ***3. Stitching*** | | | |
| a. No pulled, missing, or cut stitches? | | | |
| b. No hard, shiny, or discolored stitching? | | | |
| c. Stitching secure around hardware? | | | |
| ***4. Hardware (Buckles, D-rings, Adjusters, Grommets)*** | | | |
| a. No distortion (bending, twisting, cracks, breaks)? | | | |
| b. No corrosion (rust)? | | | |
| c. No sharp or rough edges? | | | |
| d. Buckles: Fasten and unfasten securely and smoothly? | | | |
| e. Buckles (Tongue): Overlap correctly, move freely? | | | |
| f. Buckles (Roller): Turn freely? | | | |
| g. Buckles (Friction): Grip webbing securely? | | | |
| h. D-rings: Not distorted, cracked, or broken? | | | |
| i. D-ring Pads: damaged? | | | |
| j. D-ring Bars: At 90-degree angle, pivot freely? | | | |
| k. Grommets: Secure, not broken or bent? | | | |
| l. Adjusters: Adjust easily, hold webbing? | | | |


| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| m. Tongue Buckle Prongs: Not distorted, move freely? | | | |
| n. Hardware Springs: Functioning correctly (if applicable)? | | | |
| ***5. Keepers*** | | | |
| a. All keepers present? | | | |
| b. Keepers in good condition (elasticity, loops)? | | | |

***Overall Condition of Harness:***

☐ Pass - Harness is safe for use.

☐ Fail - Harness is unsafe for use.

***Action Taken if Failed:***

☐ Removed from service and rendered unusable. REMOVE FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY BY CUTTING HARNESS INTO PIECES OR SPRAY PAINTING IT RED. THEN DISPOSE IN TRASH.

☐ Other: _____

**Signature of User/Inspector (Pre-Use): _____**

**Signature of Competent Person (Monthly): _____**

***Important Notes:***

- This checklist is a general guideline. Always refer to the specific inspection procedures provided by the harness manufacturer.
- Users should be trained on how to properly inspect their fall protection equipment.
- Keep records on these inspections.
- Any harness that has been subjected to fall arrest forces must be immediately removed from service and destroyed.
- If you have any doubts about the safety of a harness, do not use it. Consult with a competent person.

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SAFETY MOMENT TOOLBOX TALK

## Grinder & Disc Inspections – Your First Line of Defense!

Before you even think about powering on that grinder, your first and most important safety step is a thorough inspection of both the grinder itself and the disc you intend to use. This isn't just a best practice; it's your first line of defense against serious injury.

**Why are these inspections so crucial?**

- **Disc Failure:** A cracked, chipped, or improperly mounted disc can shatter at high speeds, sending fragments flying with incredible force.
- **Tool Malfunction:** Damaged cords, guards, or handles can lead to loss of control, electrical hazards, or the grinder itself becoming a projectile.
- **Unexpected Hazards:** What looks like a minor issue can quickly escalate into a catastrophic failure when the tool is operating at thousands of RPMs.

**So, what should we be looking for during our pre-use and after-use inspection?**

**For the Grinder:**

1. **Power Cord & Plug:**
    - **Inspect for:** Cuts, fraying, exposed wires, melted insulation, bent or missing ground prongs.
    - **Action:** If any damage is found, tag out the grinder and remove it from service immediately. Never use a damaged cord.
2. **Guards:**
    - **Inspect for:** Presence of the guard, proper attachment, no cracks or damage.
    - **Action:** Ensure the guard is securely in place and adjusted for the task. Never operate a grinder without its guard.
3. **Handles:**
    - **Inspect for:** Secure attachment, no cracks or damage.
    - **Action:** Both the main handle and auxiliary handle should be firm and intact for safe control.
4. **Housing & Vents:**
    - **Inspect for:** Cracks in the housing, clear ventilation openings (dust and debris can cause overheating).
    - **Action:** Keep vents clear.



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**For the Disc:**

1. **Type & Compatibility:**
    - **Inspect for:** Correct disc type for the grinder and the material being worked on (e.g., cutting, grinding, flap disc).
    - **Action:** Never use a cutting disc for grinding, or vice-versa, unless explicitly designed for both.
2. **Maximum RPM Rating:**
    - **Inspect for:** The disc's stated maximum RPM.
    - **Action:** Ensure the disc's maximum RPM is equal to or greater than the grinder's RPM.
3. **Physical Damage:**
    - **Inspect for:** Cracks, chips, gouges, missing abrasive material, dished or warped appearance.
    - **Action:** Even a hairline crack can lead to catastrophic failure. If you see any damage, discard the disc immediately.
4. **Mounting Hole & Arbor:**
    - **Inspect for:** Proper fit on the grinder's arbor, no signs of wear or enlargement on the mounting hole.
    - **Action:** Ensure the disc fits snugly and the retaining nut is tightened correctly (but not overtightened).
5. **Expiration Date (if applicable):**
    - **Inspect for:** Some abrasive discs have an expiration date.
    - **Action:** Do not use expired discs, as their bonding agents can degrade over time.

**Remember:**

- **If in doubt, throw it out!** When it comes to discs, there's no "maybe it'll be okay."
- **Don't rush!** A few extra moments for an inspection can prevent a lifetime of regret.
- **Report damaged equipment!** It's everyone's responsibility to ensure a safe working environment.

**Let's make these pre-use inspections a habit, every single time we pick up a grinder.**

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# Grinder and Disc Quarterly Inspection


Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector Name (Print): _____

Grinder Identification (Manufacturer, Model, Size, Serial #): _____

*INSTRUCTIONS*: Inspect each grinder *before each use* and monthly. Check each item below and mark the appropriate box. If any item fails inspection, remove the grinder or disc from service immediately. **Sign and date** the checklist.

| I. Grinder Inspection (Before Mounting Disc) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Inspection Item** | **Pass** | **Fail** | **Comments/Issue** |
| ***A. Power Supply and Controls*** | | | |
| • **Power Cord:** Check for cuts, fraying, exposed wires, or damaged insulation. Ensure the plug is intact and compatible. | | | |
| • **Switch/Trigger:** Verify smooth operation (on/off, momentary if applicable). Ensure it latches correctly (if designed to) and doesn't stick. | | | |
| • **Variable Speed Control (if applicable):** Test functionality across its range. | | | |
| • **Lock-on Button (if applicable):** Verify it engages and disengages properly. | | | |
| • **Dead-man Switch (if applicable):** Ensure it functions as intended, requiring continuous pressure to operate. | | | |
| ***B. Housing and Handle*** | | | |
| • **Cracks/Damage:** Inspect the main housing for any cracks, deformities, or impact damage. | | | |
| • **Handles/Grips:** Ensure all handles are securely attached, free of cracks, and provide a firm grip. | | | |
| • **Auxiliary Handle:** Verify it's present (if designed for one), securely attached, and adjustable as needed. | | | |
| ***C. Safety Guards*** | | | |
| • **Guard Presence:** Confirm the correct guard for the disc type and application is present. | | | |
| • **Guard Condition:** Check for cracks, bends, or damage. | | | |
| • **Guard Security:** Ensure it's securely attached and properly positioned to deflect debris away from the user. It should be adjustable without excessive play. | | | |
| • **Sparks Deflection:** Visualize if the guard will effectively direct sparks and debris away from the operator. | | | |
| ***D. Spindle and Flanges*** | | | |
| • **Spindle Threads:** Inspect threads for damage, wear, or burrs. They should be clean and allow the nut to thread smoothly. | | | |
| • **Inner Flange:** Ensure it's clean, flat, and free of burrs or deformities. It must fit snugly on the spindle. | | | |

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# Grinder and Disc Quarterly Inspection


| I. Grinder Inspection (Before Mounting Disc) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Inspection Item** | **Pass** | **Fail** | **Comments/Issue** |
| • **Outer Flange/Nut:** Check for damage, wear, or burrs. Ensure it can be tightened securely without cross-threading. | | | |
| ***E. Ventilation and Bearings*** | | | |
| • **Ventilation Openings:** Ensure they are clear of dust and debris to prevent overheating. | | | |
| • **Audible Sounds:** With the grinder unplugged, manually rotate the spindle. Listen for any grinding, squealing, or excessive resistance that could indicate bearing issues. (Do not power on without a disc for this test). | | | |
| ***F. General Cleanliness*** | | | |
| • Overall Cleanliness: Remove any excessive dust, grease, or debris from the grinder body. | | | |
| **II. Disc Inspection (Before Mounting)** | | | |
| **Inspection Item** | **Pass** | **Fail** | **Comments/Issue** |
| ***A. Type and Compatibility*** | | | |
| • **Correct Disc Type:** Verify it's the correct type for the application (e.g., cutting, grinding, flap disc). | | | |
| • **RPM Rating:** Ensure the disc's maximum RPM rating is equal to or greater than the grinder's maximum RPM. **NEVER use a disc with a lower RPM rating.** | | | |
| • **Diameter:** Confirm the disc diameter matches the grinder's capacity and guard. | | | |
| • **Arbor Hole Size:** Check that the arbor hole size matches the grinder's spindle. | | | |
| ***B. Visual Inspection of Disc*** | | | |
| • **Cracks/Chips:** Carefully inspect the entire disc surface and edges for any cracks, chips, or missing segments. Even small cracks can lead to catastrophic failure. | | | |
| • **Warping/Deformation:** Hold the disc flat and look for any signs of warping, bending, or unevenness. | | | |
| • **Discoloration/Burns:** Check for signs of overheating (e.g., blueing, burning) which can indicate previous misuse or material degradation. | | | |
| • **Abrasive Wear (Used Discs):** For used discs, ensure sufficient abrasive material remains for the task. Check for uneven wear patterns. | | | |
| • **Fiberglass Reinforcement (Cut-off Discs):** Verify the presence and integrity of the fiberglass reinforcement layers (often visible as mesh patterns). | | | |

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# Grinder and Disc Quarterly Inspection


| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***C. Expiration Date (for Resinoid Bonded Discs)*** | | | |
| **Check Expiration:** If the disc has an expiration date (common for resinoid bonded abrasive discs), ensure it has not expired. Expired discs can become brittle and dangerous. | | | |
| ***D. Storage Condition*** | | | |
| • **Dry and Protected:** Confirm the disc has been stored in a dry, protected environment, free from extreme temperatures or impact. | | | |
| **III. Grinder and Disc Assembly Inspection (After Mounting Disc)** | | | |
| **Inspection Item** | **Pass** | **Fail** | **Comments/Issue** |
| • **Proper Seating:** Ensure the disc is correctly seated on the inner flange and against the spindle. | | | |
| • **Outer Flange/Nut Tightness:** Confirm the outer flange/nut is securely tightened (using a wrench, not by hand). Do not overtighten, but ensure there's no play. | | | |
| • **Disc Run-out:** Briefly power on the grinder (away from yourself and others, with proper PPE) to check for excessive wobble or run-out of the disc. Immediately shut off if significant wobble is observed. | | | |
| • **Guard Position:** Re-check that the guard is properly positioned and secured to provide maximum protection for the current task. | | | |

***Overall Condition:*** ☐ Pass - safe for use. ☐ Fail - unsafe for use.

***Action Taken if Failed:***

☐ Removed from service and rendered unusable. REMOVE FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY BY SPRAY PAINTING IT RED. THEN DISPOSE IN TRASH.

☐ Other: _____

**Signature of Inspector: _____**

***Important Notes:***

- This checklist is a general guideline. Always refer to the specific inspection procedures provided by the grinder and disc manufacturer.
- Users should be trained on how to properly inspect grinders and discs.
- Keep records on these inspections.
- If you have any doubts about the safety, do not use it. Consult with Safety.

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## Power Cord Inspection - Your First Line of Defense

**Power cords** power everything from our cell phones to heavy machinery. But because they're so common, it's easy to overlook the potential hazards they can pose if not properly maintained. A damaged power cord isn't just an inconvenience; it can be a serious safety risk, leading to electrical shock, fires, or equipment damage.

**Think of power cord inspection as your first line of defense against these hazards.** It's a simple, quick check that can prevent a much larger problem down the road.

**Here's what to look for during your quick inspection:**

- **Fraying or Cuts:** Examine the entire length of the cord. Are there any exposed wires? Any nicks, cuts, or abrasions on the outer insulation? Even a small cut can compromise the cord's integrity.
- **Cracked or Damaged Insulation:** Over time, insulation can become brittle and crack, especially near plugs or where the cord bends frequently.
- **Bent or Damaged Prongs:** On the plug itself, check for bent, broken, or corroded prongs. Damaged prongs can lead to poor connections, overheating, and arcing.
- **Loose Connections:** Gently wiggle the cord where it enters the plug and where it connects to the equipment. Is there any looseness or exposed wiring?
- **Overheating Signs:** Look for any discoloration or melting on the cord or plug, which indicates overheating. A warm cord is normal during use, but a hot cord is a warning sign.
- **Proper Rating:** Ensure the cord is rated for the equipment it's powering. Using an undersized cord can lead to overheating.

**What to do if you find a damaged cord:**

**DO NOT USE IT.** Immediately remove it from service. Tag it, report it, and ensure it's properly disposed of or repaired by a qualified individual. Never attempt a makeshift repair with electrical tape – it's not a permanent or safe solution.

**Takeaway:**

Let's make power cord inspection a routine habit, whether it's before plugging in a laptop, using a power tool, or setting up new equipment. A few seconds of vigilance can prevent an accident and keep us all safe.



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## Inspecting Tagline Ropes

Taglines are those ropes we use to control suspended loads, to prevent them from rotating unexpectedly, or to guide them into position. They're essential for maintaining control and keeping personnel clear of potential crush points or swinging hazards. However, like any piece of equipment, they are subject to wear and tear, and a compromised tagline can quickly turn a controlled lift into a dangerous situation.

**Why is inspecting tagline ropes so important?**

- **Prevent Loss of Control:** A damaged tagline can break, leading to a loss of control over the load. This can result in the load swinging uncontrollably, striking personnel, or damaging equipment.
- **Avoid Hand Injuries:** Frayed or damaged ropes can cause splinters, cuts, or rope burns to the hands of the individuals controlling them.
- **Ensure Effective Guidance:** If a tagline is compromised, it may not allow for precise guidance of the load, increasing the risk of bumps, scrapes, or collisions.
- **Protect Your Investment:** Replacing damaged ropes is an unnecessary cost if proper inspection and maintenance procedures are followed.

**What should we look for during a tagline rope inspection?**

Before *every* use, and certainly at the start of each shift where taglines will be utilized, take a few moments to perform a thorough visual and tactile inspection. Here's what to look for:

1. **Fraying and Broken Strands:** This is perhaps the most obvious sign of wear. Look for individual strands that are broken, cut, or separating from the main body of the rope. This significantly weakens the rope.
2. **Cuts, Nicks, and Abrasions:** Check for any signs of cuts or nicks caused by contact with sharp edges, rough surfaces, or pinch points. Abrasions (wear and tear from rubbing) will also weaken the rope.
3. **Discoloration and Chemical Damage:** Look for unusual discoloration, stiffness, or a powdery residue. These can indicate exposure to chemicals, excessive heat, or UV degradation, all of which can severely compromise the rope's integrity.
4. **Melted or Burned Spots:** Any signs of melting or burning indicate heat damage, which can drastically reduce the rope's strength, even if the damage isn't immediately obvious.
5. **Kinks or Permanent Deformations:** A rope that has been severely kinked or has permanent bends may have internal damage that isn't visible.
6. **Secure Attachments:** If the tagline has spliced eyes, knots, or hardware attached, ensure these are secure and not showing signs of wear or slippage.

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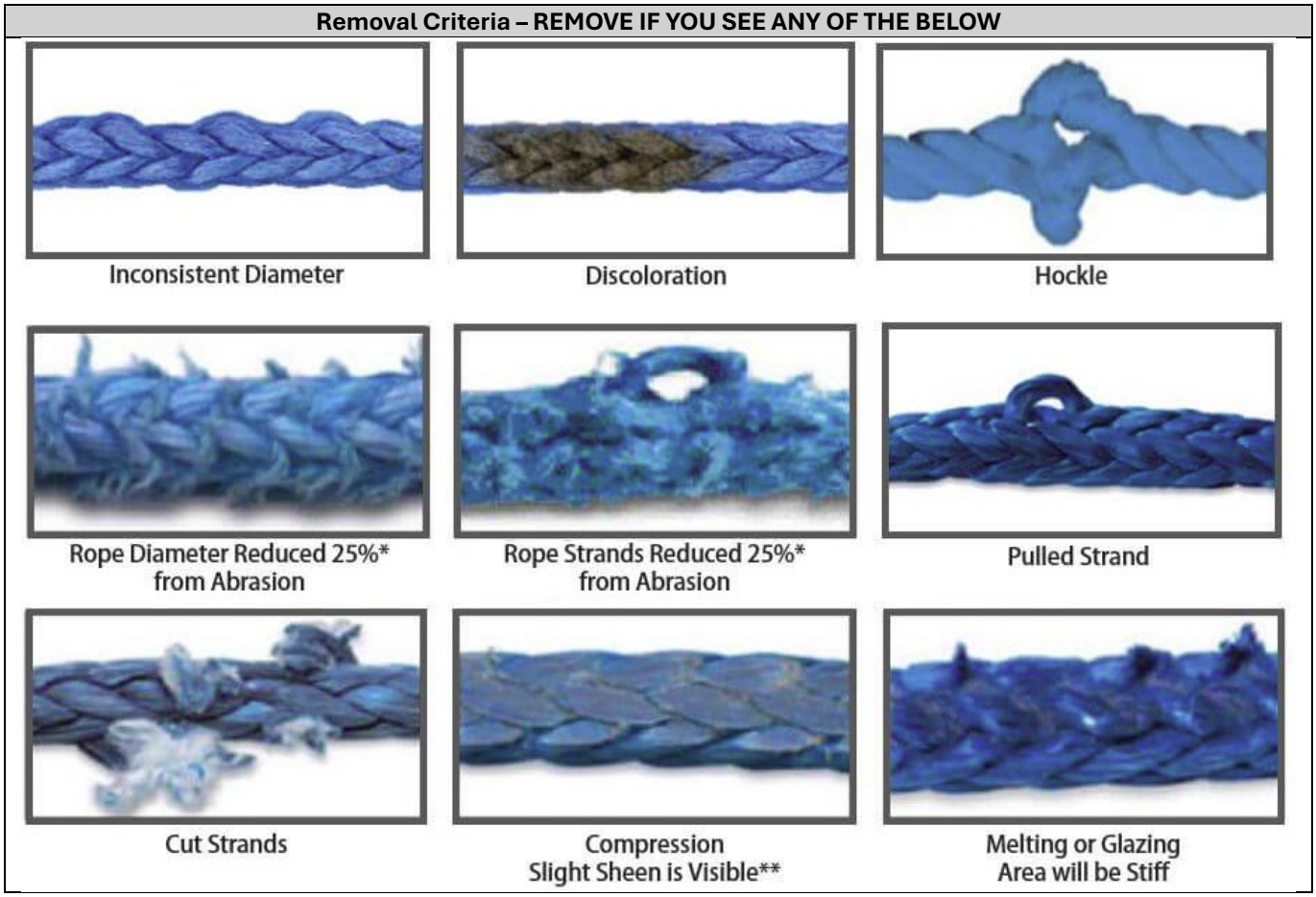
7. **Excessive Dirt or Grit:** While not directly damaging, excessive dirt or grit embedded in the rope can cause internal abrasion and degrade the fibers over time.

**What to do if you find damage:**

- **Immediately remove the rope from service.** Do not use a damaged tagline!
- **Tag it out.** Label it clearly as "DAMAGED - DO NOT USE" and isolate it from other ropes.
- **Report it.** Inform your supervisor or the appropriate personnel so it can be repaired by a qualified person or properly disposed of and replaced.

**Key Takeaway:**

Tagline ropes are simple tools, but their condition directly impacts our safety. Taking a few extra moments to thoroughly inspect them before use is a small investment of time that can prevent serious accidents. Let's make it a habit to **inspect our taglines, every time.** Your hands, and the safety of those around you, depend on it.



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# Tagline Quarterly Inspection

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector Name (Print): _____

Identification (Manufacturer, Model, Size, Serial #): _____

***INSTRUCTIONS***: Inspect each tagline *before each use* and monthly. Check each item below and mark the appropriate box. If any item fails inspection, remove the tagline from service immediately. **Sign and date** the checklist.

| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***I. Pre-Use Visual Inspection (Before Each Shift/Lift)*** | | | |
| • **Cleanliness:** Is the tag line free from excessive dirt, mud, grease, or other contaminants that could obscure damage or make it slippery? | | | |
| • **Knots/Splices:** Are there any unauthorized knots, kinks, or splices in the line? (Only factory-made or properly supervised splices are acceptable). | | | |
| • **Fraying/Cuts:** Check the entire length of the line for any signs of fraying, cuts, nicks, or abraded areas. | | | |
| • **Chemical Damage:** Look for discoloration, stiffness, or other signs of chemical degradation (e.g., acid, alkali, solvents). | | | |
| • **Heat Damage:** Are there any melted or glazed areas, or signs of charring? | | | |
| • **UV Degradation:** For synthetic ropes, check for chalky appearance, loss of color vibrancy, or increased stiffness, indicating UV damage. | | | |
| • **Overall Condition:** Does the tag line appear to be in good, serviceable condition, free from obvious defects? | | | |
| ***II. After-Use/Storage Inspection*** | | | |
| • **Coiling/Storage:** Is the tag line properly coiled or stored to prevent tangling, kinking, and damage? | | | |
| • **Cleanliness (Post-Use):** Is the tag line free from excessive dirt or contaminants before storage? | | | |
| • **Designated Storage Location:** Is the tag line stored in a dry, protected area away from chemicals, direct sunlight, and extreme temperatures? | | | |

***Overall Condition:*** ☐ Pass - safe for use. ☐ Fail - unsafe for use.


***Action Taken if Failed:***

☐ Removed from service and rendered unusable. REMOVE FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY BY SPRAY PAINTING IT RED. THEN DISPOSE IN TRASH.

☐ Other: _____

**Signature of User/Inspector (Pre-Use/Post Use): _____**

**Signature of Competent Person (Monthly): _____**

***Important Notes:***

- This checklist is a general guideline. Always refer to the specific inspection procedures provided by the ladder manufacturer.
- Users should be trained on how to properly use and inspect taglines.
- Keep records on these inspections.
- If you have any doubts about the safety of a tagline, do not use it. Consult with Safety.

## Inspecting Rigging and Lifting Straps

**Let's** talk about something we often take for granted, but that carries immense risk if overlooked: **inspecting our rigging and lifting straps.**

Think about the forces involved when we lift heavy objects. A small imperfection, a tiny tear, or a bit of wear can quickly escalate into a catastrophic failure. And when a lift fails, it's not just the material we're lifting that's at risk – it's our colleagues, our equipment, and potentially our lives.

**So, what should we be looking for?** Let's make it simple: **Look Up, Look Down, Look All Around.**

- **Look Up:** Start with the connection points, the shackles, the hooks, and the eyes.
    - Are they free from cracks, deformities, or excessive wear?
    - Is the keeper on the hook functioning correctly?
    - Are bolts and pins secure and in good condition?
- **Look Down:** Now, shift your focus to the body of the strap or sling itself.
    - Are there any cuts, nicks, or abrasions? Are there signs of melting, burns, or chemical exposure?
    - Are the stitching patterns intact, or do you see broken or pulled threads?
    - For chain slings, are the links deformed, stretched, or gouged?
- **Look All Around:** This means checking the entire length of the strap, front and back, and twisting it to look for hidden damage. Pay close attention to areas that frequently come into contact with the load or sharp edges.
    - Are there any signs of excessive stretching or thinning of the material?
    - For synthetic straps, is the core material visible through the outer jacket?

**If you find *any* of these issues, no matter how small, the answer is simple: DO NOT USE IT.** Tag it out, remove it from service immediately, and report it. It's far better to err on the side of caution than to gamble with safety.

Remember, this isn't just about following a procedure; it's about protecting ourselves and each other. A few moments spent inspecting your rigging before a lift can prevent an accident that could change lives forever.

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# Lifting Straps Monthly Inspection

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector Name (Print): _____

Identification (Manufacturer, Model, Size, Serial #): _____

*INSTRUCTIONS*: Inspect any strap*before each use* and monthly. Check each item below and mark the appropriate box. If any item fails inspection, remove the harness from service immediately. **Sign and date form.**

***Important Notes:***

- This checklist is a general guideline. Always refer to the specific inspection procedures provided by the harness manufacturer.
- Users should be trained on how to properly inspect their fall protection equipment.
- Keep records on these inspections.
- If you have any doubts about the safety of a strap, do not use it. Consult with Safety.

| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***1. Labels and Markings*** | | | |
| a. All required labels present? | | | |
| b. Labels are legible? | | | |
| c. Date of manufacture within service life? | | | |
| ***2. Webbing*** | | | |
| a. No cuts, tears, or fraying? | | | |
| b. No abrasions or broken fibers? | | | |
| c. No pulled or damaged stitches? | | | |
| d. No discoloration (heat/chemical damage)? | | | |
| e. No hard, shiny, or brittle spots? | | | |
| f. No excessive stretching or deformation? | | | |
| g. No unauthorized modifications (e.g., holes)? | | | |
| h. No mildew or other degradation? | | | |
| ***3. Stitching*** | | | |
| a. No pulled, missing, or cut stitches? | | | |
| b. No hard, shiny, or discolored stitching? | | | |
| c. Stitching secure around hardware? | | | |

***Overall Condition:*** ☐ Pass ☐ Fail - Harness is unsafe for use.

***Action Taken if Failed:***

☐ Removed from service and rendered unusable. REMOVE FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY BY CUTTING STRAP INTO PIECES OR SPRAY PAINTING IT RED. THEN DISPOSE IN TRASH.

☐ Other: _____

**Signature of User/Inspector: _____**

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# Lifting Straps Monthly Inspection

| Manufacturer | Model | Size | Lifting Capacity | Serial Number/ID # |
|---|---|---|---|---|
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SAFETY MOMENT TOOLBOX TALK

## Ladder Inspections

A fall from even a low height can cause serious injury, so a quick inspection before each use and monthly/quarterly is crucial.

**1. The "Once Over" – Visual Inspection (Before Every Use!)**

- **Rungs and Steps:** Are they clean, dry, and free of grease, oil, paint, or other slippery substances? Are any missing, bent, cracked, or loose?
- **Side Rails:** Check for any cracks, splits, bends, or dents. Make sure they are not warped or twisted.
- **Feet/Shoes:** Are the ladder's feet or "shoes" in good condition? They should be present, not excessively worn, and free of damage. These provide critical grip.
- **Labels:** Are all warning and instruction labels present and legible?
- **Hardware:** For extension ladders, check ropes, pulleys, and locks. For stepladders, inspect spreaders and hinges. Ensure all are functioning correctly and free of corrosion or damage.

**2. Functionality Check**

- **Extension Ladders:** Operate the extension mechanism to ensure it moves smoothly and the locks engage properly.
- **Stepladders:** Fully open the stepladder and ensure the spreaders lock securely into place. There should be no wobbling.

**3. "Feel" Test**

- Pick up the ladder and give it a slight shake. Does it feel sturdy? Are there any creaks or groans that weren't there before?

**When in doubt, take it out!** If you find any damage or defects during your inspection, **do not use the ladder**. Tag it out of service and report it so it can be repaired or replaced.

A few extra seconds inspecting your ladder can prevent a lifetime of pain.



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# Ladder Quarterly Inspection

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector Name (Print): _____

Ladder Identification (Manufacturer, Model, Size, Serial #): _____

*INSTRUCTIONS*: Inspect each ladder *before each use* and monthly. Check each item below and mark the appropriate box. If any item fails inspection, remove the ladder from service immediately. **Sign and date** the checklist.

| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***1. Visual Inspection*** | | | |
| • Ladder is clean and free of excessive dirt, mud, or debris. | | | |
| • All warning and instruction labels are present and legible. | | | |
| ***1.1. Rungs/Steps*** | | | |
| • Rungs/steps are clean, dry, and free of grease, oil, paint, or other slippery substances. | | | |
| • No rungs/steps are missing, bent, cracked, split, or excessively worn. | | | |
| • All rungs/steps are securely attached to the side rails. | | | |
| ***1.2. Side Rails*** | | | |
| • Side rails are free of cracks, splits, splinters, bends, twists, or dents. | | | |
| • Side rails are not warped or bowed. | | | |
| • No signs of corrosion (for metal ladders) or rot (for wooden ladders). | | | |
| ***1.3. Feet / Shoes*** | | | |
| • Both ladder feet/shoes are present and securely attached. | | | |
| • Feet/shoes are not excessively worn or damaged. | | | |
| • Anti-slip pads (if applicable) are intact and provide good grip. | | | |
| ***2.1. Functionality Check – Extension Ladders*** | | | |
| • Ropes and pulleys (if present) are in good condition and operate smoothly. | | | |
| • Extension locks/pawls engage properly on the rungs and hold securely when extended. | | | |
| • Ladder extends and retracts smoothly without binding. | | | |

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| Inspection Item | Pass | Fail | Comments/Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***2.2. Functionality Check – Step Ladders*** | | | |
| • Spreaders (or bracing) operate smoothly and lock securely when the ladder is fully opened. | | | |
| • Hinges are not bent, damaged, or excessively worn. | | | |
| • Ladder stands firmly on all four feet without wobbling when fully opened. | | | |
| ***3. Sturdiness Check*** | | | |
| • Lift and slightly shake the ladder. Does it feel sturdy and stable? | | | |
| • Are there any unusual creaks, groans, or excessive play that indicate looseness or damage? | | | |

***Overall Condition:***

☐ Pass - safe for use.

☐ Fail - unsafe for use.

***Action Taken if Failed:***

☐ Removed from service and rendered unusable. REMOVE FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY BY SPRAY PAINTING IT RED. THEN DISPOSE IN TRASH.

☐ Other: _____

**Signature of User/Inspector (Pre-Use): _____**

**Signature of Competent Person (Monthly): _____**

***Important Notes:***

- This checklist is a general guideline. Always refer to the specific inspection procedures provided by the ladder manufacturer.
- Users should be trained on how to properly inspect ladders.
- Keep records on these inspections.
- If you have any doubts about the safety of a ladder, do not use it. Consult with Safety.