



Checklist

Hazard Identification Checklist

A practical tool to help safety professionals identify where harm is most likely to occur.

Effective hazard identification is the foundation of any strong workplace safety program.

When operations, equipment, materials, workflows or staging change, new hazards can be introduced or existing risks can shift in ways that aren't immediately obvious.

This checklist is designed to help you identify where harm is most likely to occur before it leads to an incident.

*Please note that this checklist covers common workplace hazards. Your organization may require a more tailored inspection checklist depending on your specific industry and operations.

Before Using This Checklist

This checklist is most effective when it is used with the information you already have about your workplace. Before you start any inspection, collect and review available documentation, records and prior assessments so you understand what hazards are likely, where exposures may occur and what controls are supposed to be in place. This allows you to verify whether those controls are working as intended rather than relying on observation alone to identify risk.

Use the sources below, alongside this checklist, to prepare for workplace inspections:

- Equipment and machinery manuals
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
- Previous inspection findings and CAPAs
- OSHA injury and illness records, such as OSHA 300 and 301 logs
- Incident investigation reports and near-miss reports
- Exposure monitoring data
- Existing EHS programs and procedures, such as lockout tagout, confined space, hazard communication, PPE and machine guarding
- Job Hazard Analyses
- Worker input sources

How To Use Checklist

This checklist is intended to support the workplace assessment process. Below is an example of how you may use this resource:

1. Review background information: Utilize the documentation listed above to understand what hazards may already exist. This will help determine which sections of the checklist are most relevant.

2. Walk the jobsite with workers: Conduct the inspection with people who perform the job. Their insight helps identify conditions and behaviors that may not appear in written procedures.

3. Use the checklist section by section: Move through the work area focusing on one hazard category at a time.

4. Document findings thoroughly: For each identified hazard, note the location, equipment involved, photos if helpful and the potential risk.

5. Assign and track corrective actions: For anything marked as needing action, assign an owner and due date. Verified, completed actions should be recorded to confirm hazards were corrected. Analyze inspection findings to determine if updated training, procedures or maintenance is required.

6. Reassess controls: Reevaluate controls regularly to verify effectiveness.



General Workplace Hazard Inspection Checklist

General

Yes No

Required safety postings displayed and readable in common areas

Emergency evacuation maps clearly posted

Exit routes clear with no stored materials or locked doors

Exit signs illuminated and visible from exit paths

Aisles and walkways kept clear with sufficient width for normal traffic

Floors even with indicated changes in elevation

Lighting at adequate brightness

Work areas clean with waste removed on a routine schedule

Materials stored to prevent tipping, collapse or falling objects

PPE available in appropriate sizes and condition for the work performed

Biological

Yes No

Waste and refuse stored in covered, labeled containers and removed regularly

Sharps containers present where needed and not overfilled

Handwashing facilities stocked with soap, towels and running water

Yes No

First aid supplies stocked and accessible for the work area

Emergency showers and eyewash stations accessible with clear signage

Eyewash and shower units inspected and maintained on a documented schedule

Biohazard labeling used where biological materials or contaminated waste are handled

Chemical

Yes No

Safety Data Sheets available and easy to access for all hazardous chemicals

Chemical containers labeled with quantity, product identity and hazard information

Chemicals stored in closed containers when not in use

Incompatible chemicals segregated using approved storage methods

Flammable liquids stored in approved containers and cabinets where required

Covered metal cans used for oily rags, paint waste and solvent-soaked materials

Spill kits stocked and located near chemical use and storage areas

Spill response procedures posted or readily available to workers

Chemical handling performed in designated areas with adequate ventilation

Required chemical and respiratory PPE available in appropriate sizes

Combustible dust accumulation controlled using defined housekeeping methods

Hazardous waste labeled, stored and removed using documented procedures

Electrical

Yes No

Electrical panels accessible with required clearance maintained

Breakers and disconnects labeled to match equipment or areas served

Junction boxes, outlets and switch covers intact with no open gaps

Extension cords used only for temporary needs and not as permanent wiring

Power strips used appropriately with no daisy chaining

Damaged cords removed from service and replaced

Grounding in place where required with no defeated ground pins

GFCI protection used where moisture or wet conditions may be present

Lockout tagout procedures available for equipment with hazardous energy

Fire

Yes No

Fire extinguishers present, mounted, visible and inspected on schedule

Extinguisher types match the hazards present in the area

Fire alarms tested and maintained on a documented schedule

Sprinkler heads unobstructed with clearance maintained below deflectors

Fire doors functional with no wedges, damage or blocked closure

Combustible materials stored away from heat sources and ignition sources

Flammable and combustible liquids stored in approved containers

Yes No

Hot work controlled through a permit process where required

Smoking restricted to approved areas with proper disposal containers

Explosion-proof equipment used where flammable atmospheres may exist

Gravity

Yes No

Guardrails installed and intact where open edges exist

Covers or barriers used for holes and floor openings

Ladders in good condition with no missing feet, bent rails or damaged rungs

Ladders used correctly with stable footing and proper angle

Step ladders used with spreaders properly locked

Elevated work performed with appropriate fall protection for the hazard

Harnesses, lanyards and anchor points inspected before use

Tools and materials secured when work occurs overhead

Hard hats worn where overhead hazards or suspended loads exist

Suspended loads controlled with exclusion zones and trained operators

Warning signage posted for restricted access areas near overhead work

Mechanical

Yes No

Machine guarding in place and secure for all moving parts and pinch points

Interlocks and safety devices functional and not bypassed

Emergency stop devices accessible, labeled and tested where applicable

Operating instructions available for equipment used in the area

Only trained and authorized workers operate specialized equipment

Lockout tagout used during servicing, cleaning and maintenance

Stored energy sources identified and controlled before maintenance begins

Start-up warnings or safeguards used to prevent unexpected energization

Equipment anchored or secured where movement could create hazards

Motion

Yes No

Traffic routes defined for pedestrians and vehicles in shared areas

Aisles and travel paths wide enough for equipment with safe clearance

Mirrors, signs or barriers used at blind corners and intersections

Speed limits posted and enforced for powered industrial trucks

Forklifts and similar equipment inspected before use with issues removed from service

Horns, lights and backup alarms functional where equipped

Seat belts used on powered industrial trucks where required

Yes No

Loads stable, secured and within equipment rated capacity

Parked equipment secured with forks lowered and power off when unattended

Noise

Yes No

High-noise areas identified and posted when needed

Hearing protection available in appropriate ratings and worn where required

Communication methods defined for areas where normal speech cannot be heard

Equipment maintenance performed to reduce avoidable noise from wear, vibration or damaged parts

Pressure

Yes No

Compressed gas cylinders stored upright and secured with caps when not in use

Cylinder contents clearly labeled and compatible regulators used

Hoses, fittings and couplings inspected with damaged components removed from service

Pressure relief devices present where required

Pneumatic tools used with proper guards, whip checks or safety features where applicable

Eye and face protection worn where flying particles or pressure release may occur

Yes No

Excavations protected against cave-in using appropriate methods where applicable

Barricades or covers used to prevent falls into pits, trenches or excavations

Temperature

Yes No

Hot surfaces guarded or labeled to prevent contact burns

Heat stress controls in place for hot environments, including water, rest and shade where relevant

Cold stress controls in place for cold environments, including warm-up breaks and appropriate clothing

Ventilation operating where fumes, dust or vapors may be present

Fans and air movement do not push contaminants toward workers or into clean areas

Indoor air concerns documented and escalated when workers report symptoms

PPE available in appropriate sizing and meeting all requirements for the task at hand

Use the sections below to document each hazard clearly and assign the actions needed to address it. Be specific so issues can be tracked, corrected and verified.

Findings

Location:

Hazard category:

Description of issue:

Immediate controls in place:

Photo or reference ID:

Corrective Action

Action needed:

Owner:

Due date:

Interim controls:

Verification method:

Verified by and date:

Conclusion

This checklist provides only a broad overview of common workplace hazards and is intended for general use across many types of operations. Because each organization faces unique risks based on its industry, processes and equipment, you should tailor inspections to reflect the specific conditions, regulatory requirements and work activities within your operating environment.

For additional guidance, consult authoritative resources such as OSHA, NIOSH and the CDC, as well as any industry-specific standards that apply to your work.



The logo for EVOTIX, featuring the word "EVOTIX" in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a small dot above the letter 'I'.

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A rounded rectangular card with a light blue background. It features a map of North America with a red location pin over the United States. Below the map, the text "US" and "Chicago" is displayed. At the bottom, a white rounded rectangle contains the phone number "+1(872) 215 5913".

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Let's chat

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