

Heavy Equipment Checklist

A pre-use inspection checklist for heavy equipment.

Walkaround inspection

- ☐ Walk fully around the machine before starting the engine.
- ☐ Check for new leaks, fluid puddles or stains underneath.
- ☐ Inspect the frame, body and attachments for cracks or damage.
- ☐ Confirm guards, covers and panels are in place and secure.
- ☐ Check steps, grab rails and access points are sound and clean.
- ☐ Verify no people or obstructions are in the work area.

Fluids and engine

- ☐ Check engine oil level and condition.
- ☐ Verify coolant level and inspect for leaks.
- ☐ Check hydraulic fluid level and look for hose leaks.
- ☐ Confirm fuel level and inspect lines for damage.
- ☐ Check belts and hoses for wear, cracks or looseness.
- ☐ Inspect the air filter and battery condition.

Tires, tracks and undercarriage

- ☐ Inspect tires for cuts, wear and correct inflation.
- ☐ Check tracks for tension, missing pads or damaged shoes.
Track and tire issues should be assessed against the operator's manual specifications.
- ☐ Verify wheel nuts and rims are intact and tight.
- ☐ Inspect the undercarriage for damage and packed debris.
- ☐ Check rollers, idlers and sprockets for wear and leaks.
- ☐ Confirm attachment pins, locks and couplers are secure.

Controls and instruments

- ☐ Confirm seat, mirrors and seatbelt adjust and secure.
- ☐ Start the engine and check for warning lights or codes.
- ☐ Test steering, brakes and parking brake for response.
- ☐ Verify hydraulic controls operate smoothly through full range.
- ☐ Check gauges and instruments read within normal limits.
- ☐ Listen for abnormal engine or hydraulic noise.

Safety devices

- ☐ Test the horn, backup alarm and travel alarm.
- ☐ Confirm lights, beacons and signals work.
- ☐ Check the fire extinguisher is charged and mounted.
- ☐ Verify ROPS/FOPS cab structure is intact and unmodified.
- ☐ Confirm the parking brake and hydraulic locks hold.
- ☐ Check windows, wipers and visibility are clear.

Documentation and follow-up

- ☐ Record machine hours and the inspection date and time.
- ☐ Confirm the operator is trained and authorized for the machine.
- ☐ Note any defects with severity and recommended action.
- ☐ Tag out and report any machine that fails the check.
- ☐ Verify service records are current per the schedule.
- ☐ Sign, date and file the completed pre-use record.