

Toolbox Talk: Conducting Forklift Pre-Start Inspections

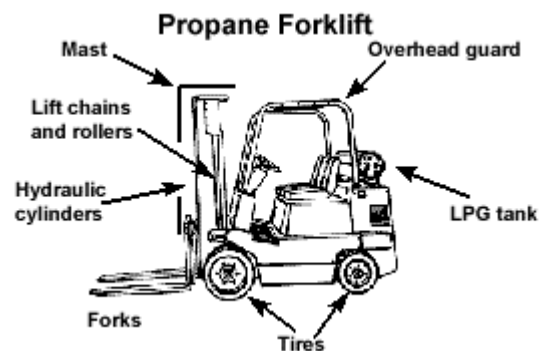
Why Inspections Matter

Because of the potential risks involved with operating forklifts, it's important to adhere to OSHA regulations (OSHA 1910.178). Regular inspections are essential to ensure the safe operation of these machines and to prevent serious injuries or fatalities.

Inspection Checklist

To ensure your forklift is safe to operate, perform the following checks at the start of every shift:

1. Tires: Check for wear, damage, and proper inflation.
2. Hydraulic Hoses: Inspect for leaks, cracks, or damage.
3. Brakes: Test for proper function and response.
4. Lights: Ensure all lights are working correctly.
5. Horns: Verify that the horn is operational.
6. Fork Movement: Test the forks by moving them up, down, and sideways.
7. Fluids: Check levels of essential fluids like oil, coolant, and hydraulic fluid.
8. Fire Extinguisher: Confirm it's properly affixed and fully charged.



Additionally, perform a walk-through of the workplace before operating the forklift. This helps identify any potential hazards in the area where you'll be working.

George Mason University: Daily Forklift Inspection Checklist

<https://ehs.gmu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/DailyForkliftInspectionChecklist.pdf>

Summary of Main Points

- Forklifts, or PITs, are critical tools in many industries.
- OSHA mandates that forklifts must be inspected before every shift to ensure safety.
- Key inspection items include tires, hydraulic hoses, brakes, lights, horns, fork movement, fluids, and the fire extinguisher.
- Always conduct a workplace walk-through to identify hazards before operating the forklift.

By following these guidelines, you help ensure a safer working environment and minimize the risk of workplace accidents.



SAFETY TRAINING SIGN IN SHEET

TRAINING TITLE	Conducting Forklift Pre-Start Inspections		
DATE & TIME		LOCATION	
COMPANY		TRAINER	

NAME	SIGNATURE	PHONE