

PPE Routine Inspection Checklist

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) requires individual members to conduct a routine inspection of their personal protective equipment (PPE) upon issuance and after each use to help reduce the health and safety risks associated with improper maintenance, contamination, or damage. Individual members may use this checklist for performing and documenting routine inspections of PPE. The items listed reflect the minimum requirements for the **Routine Inspection** of PPE as outlined in Chapter 6, Section 2 of **NFPA 1851: Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting (2014)**.

Equipment assigned to: _____

Inspected by: _____

Date of inspection: _____

Instructions: Clean soiled or contaminated gear before inspection. Refer to your organization’s guidelines for determining if an element is soiled to the extent that cleaning is necessary. Use the checkboxes to ensure inspection of all critical areas of your PPE. Indicate whether each item meets your organization’s established criteria by marking “pass” or “fail.” Use the comments section to explain all fail reasons, and describe what actions you will take to rectify the issues. Be sure to note when you remove items from service for Advanced Inspection. Per NFPA 1851, advanced inspections must be conducted “whenever routine inspections indicate that a problem could exist.” **This checklist does not include the requirements for Advanced Inspection of PPE as outlined in Chapter 6, Section 3 of NFPA 1851.**

Coat and Trousers				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Soiling				
2. Contamination				
3. Physical damage such as:				
a. Rips, tears, and cuts				
b. Damaged or missing hardware and closure systems				
c. Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, discoloration of any layer)				
4. Damaged or missing reflective trim				
5. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
6. Correct assembly and size compatibility of shell, liner, and the drag rescue device (DRD)				
Comments:				

DISCLAIMER: This is a sample guideline furnished to you by VFIS. Your organization should review this guideline and make the necessary modifications to meet your organization’s needs. The intent of this guideline is to assist you in reducing exposure to the risk of injury, harm, or damage to personnel, property, and the general public. For additional information on this topic, contact your VFIS Risk Control Representative at (800) 233-1957.





Hood				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Soiling				
2. Contamination				
3. Physical damage to the shell such as:				
a. Rips, tears, and cuts				
b. Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, discoloration of any layer)				
4. Loss of face opening adjustment				
5. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
Comments:				

Helmet				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Soiling				
2. Contamination				
3. Physical damage to the shell such as:				
a. Cracks, crazing, dents, and abrasions				
b. Thermal damage to the shell (bubbling, soft spots, warping, discoloration)				
4. Physical damage to the earflaps such as:				
a. Rips, tears, and cuts				
b. Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting)				
5. Damaged or missing components of the suspension and retention systems				
6. Damaged or missing components of the faceshield/goggle system, including discoloration, crazing, and scratches to the faceshield/goggle lens limiting visibility				
7. Damaged or missing reflective trim				
8. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
Comments:				

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Gloves				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Soiling				
2. Contamination				
3. Physical damage such as:				
a. Rips, tears, and cuts				
b. Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, discoloration of any layer)				
c. Inverted liner				
4. Shrinkage				
5. Loss of elasticity or flexibility				
6. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
Comments:				

Footwear				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Soiling				
2. Contamination				
3. Physical damage such as:				
a. Cuts, tears, or punctures				
b. Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, discoloration of any layer)				
c. Exposed or deformed protective toe, protective midsole, or shank				
4. Loss of water resistance				
5. Closure system component damage and functionality				
6. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
Comments:				

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Drag Rescue Device				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Installation in garment				
2. Soiling				
3. Contamination				
4. Physical damage such as:				
a. Cuts, tears, punctures, cracking, or splitting				
b. Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting, discoloration)				
c. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
Comments:				

Interface				
Make:	Model:	Serial #	Pass	Fail
1. Soiling				
2. Contamination				
3. Physical damage				
4. Loss or reduction of properties that allow component to continue as effective interface [e.g., loss of shape or inability to remain attached to the respective element(s) where attachment is required]				
5. Loss of seam integrity and broken or missing stitches				
Comments:				

Inspector's signature

(Date)

Supervisor's signature

(Date)

References

NFPA. (2014). 1851 Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting. Retrieved from <https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=1851>

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