Aerial Lift Pre-Use Inspection Checklist: Boom and Scissor

Frequency	Completed by	Approved by	The checklist
Every shift	Platform operator	Supervisor	42 checks · 6 sections

INSPECTION DETAILS

Site / work location: ..... Machine ID or serial number: .....

Machine type: ..... Hour meter (h): .....

Shift: ..... Date and time: .....

Documents and operator

1.	The operator's manual for this model is on the machine and readable Ref.: [12] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
2.	The latest periodic inspection report is available and has not expired CRITICAL Türkiye: by an authorised person, yearly unless the standards set another interval; the report stays with the machine when it is used off the premises. UK: thorough examination at least every six months. Elsewhere: national rules and the manufacturer's schedule. Ref.: [1] [10] [11]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
3.	The previous form has been read, and every defect it reported has been repaired Ref.: [1] [10]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
4.	The operator is trained and assigned by the employer to use this type of platform CRITICAL Ref.: [1] [2] [4] [8]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
5.	A rescue plan is agreed, and a person on the ground knows the emergency procedure and the ground controls CRITICAL Agree how the people in the platform will communicate with the ground and how they will be brought down if the machine fails. Ref.: [10] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

Walk-around (power off, platform stowed)

6.	Hydraulic oil, engine oil, coolant and fuel are at the correct level Mark engine items N/A on battery-powered machines. Ref.: [8] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
7.	There are no oil, fuel or battery fluid leaks on the machine or on the ground beneath it CRITICAL Ref.: [8] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
8.	The battery and charger are undamaged and secure, and the battery is charged Ref.: [8] [12] [11]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
9.	Tyres and wheels have no cuts, worn tread, damage or missing wheel nuts CRITICAL Ref.: [8] [12] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
10.	Hydraulic hoses, cylinders, cables and wiring harnesses are undamaged and not leaking CRITICAL Ref.: [8] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
11.	The chassis, boom or scissor arms and turntable have no dents, cracks or other structural damage CRITICAL Look at welds and the metal next to them. Türkiye: a crack or excessive wear takes the machine out of use and calls for a periodic inspection at once. Ref.: [1] [12] [8]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
12.	Pins, locking devices and fasteners are in place and secure, with no loose or missing parts CRITICAL Ref.: [8] [12] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
13.	Outriggers or stabilizers and their pads are undamaged CRITICAL Mark N/A if the machine has none. Ref.: [8]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
14.	Safety placards, control markings and the rated load plate are in place and legible CRITICAL The plate gives the maximum load and number of people. Do not use a machine with missing or unreadable placards. Ref.: [8] [12] [1] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
15.	Insulated parts of the boom and bucket are clean and undamaged, with no drilled holes or alterations CRITICAL Mark N/A on machines not sold as insulated. Ref.: [8] [4]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

Platform and fall protection

16.	Guardrails are complete, undamaged and securely fixed **CRITICAL** Ref.: [8] [9] [1] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
17.	The entry gate closes and latches in place, and its hinges work **CRITICAL** Ref.: [12] [8]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
18.	The floor is clear of debris, and there are no planks, ladders or boxes to gain extra height **CRITICAL** Ref.: [4] [8] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
19.	The manufacturer's lanyard anchor points are undamaged **CRITICAL** Attach only to these points, never to an adjacent structure, pole or other equipment. Ref.: [12] [4] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
20.	Everyone in a boom lift wears a full-body harness with a short lanyard attached to an anchor point **CRITICAL** Scissor lifts: mark N/A unless the manual or site rules require it. OSHA does not require tie-off on a scissor lift with properly maintained guardrails. Ref.: [4] [12] [10] [7]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
21.	The combined weight of people, tools and materials is within the rated load, and the number of people is within the limit **CRITICAL** Ref.: [4] [8] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

Work zone

22.	The ground is firm, with no holes, drop-offs, soft fill or unprotected covers along the travel path or at the work position **CRITICAL** Look for trenches, manholes and uncompacted backfill. Temporary covers must be strong enough for the machine. Ref.: [10] [8] [2] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
23.	The machine stands on level ground or on a slope within the limit given in the manual **CRITICAL** US: wheel chocks on inclines where they can be safely installed. Ref.: [4] [9] [12] [2]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
24.	Outriggers are extended onto pads or a solid surface before the platform is raised, and the brakes are set **CRITICAL** Mark N/A if the machine has none. Use spreader plates if the manual requires them. Ref.: [4] [8] [10] [2]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

25.	Overhead power lines near the work have been identified and the machine can stay clear of them CRITICAL OSHA: treat all lines as energized and stay at least 10 ft (3 m) away, more at higher voltages, unless the line owner has de-energized them. Ref.: [8] [9] [6] [10]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
26.	Beams, ceilings and other overhead obstructions have been identified, and the operator knows the crushing risk CRITICAL Operators can be pushed against the controls by a fixed structure and be unable to stop the machine. Ref.: [10] [8] [9] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
27.	The area below the platform is barriered or marked, and no one is inside it CRITICAL Keep every part of the arm out of traffic routes, and use a ground guide where vehicles pass. Ref.: [10] [8] [9] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
28.	Wind and weather are within the limits in the manual, and the machine is rated for outdoor use if it is outdoors CRITICAL Inspect the platform again after storms or snowfall. Ref.: [1] [8] [9] [10] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

Function tests (no load in the platform)

29.	Every lift function works from the ground controls CRITICAL OSHA 1926.453: on aerial lifts the lower controls must override the upper controls and be plainly marked. Ref.: [4] [5] [8] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
30.	The emergency stop on the ground panel disables all machine functions CRITICAL Ref.: [12] [8] [1] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
31.	The emergency lowering system or auxiliary power can lower the platform CRITICAL Ref.: [12] [1] [10]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
32.	From the platform, every function works, the console is secure and the levers return to neutral CRITICAL Ref.: [4] [8] [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
33.	The emergency stop in the platform disables all machine functions CRITICAL Ref.: [12] [8] [1] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

34.	All functions stop when the footswitch is released, and the footswitch is not blocked or modified **CRITICAL** Mark N/A if the machine uses another enable device, and test that device instead. Ref.: [12]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
35.	Limit and cut-out switches stop their functions, and drive speed drops when the platform is raised **CRITICAL** Ref.: [12] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
36.	The tilt indicator or alarm works as described in the manual **CRITICAL** The alarm does not replace checking that the chassis is level. Ref.: [12] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
37.	Overload, anti-entrapment and other safety devices fitted to this machine show no fault and have not been overridden **CRITICAL** Test them as the manual describes. Mark N/A only for devices this machine does not have. Ref.: [8] [12] [10]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
38.	Steering works, and the brakes stop and hold the machine **CRITICAL** With the platform stowed, test the brakes on a grade within the machine's rated limit. Ref.: [8] [9] [12] [1]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A
39.	The horn, gauges, lights and travel or reversing alarm work Ref.: [8] [3]	◯ Pass ◯ Fail ◯ N/A

Result

40.	Every defect found has been reported in writing to the supervisor Ref.: [10] [11] [1]	◯ Yes ◯ No ◯ N/A
41.	If a critical check failed, the machine is switched off, tagged out of service and not used until repaired **CRITICAL** Ref.: [8] [11] [1] [12]	◯ Yes ◯ No ◯ N/A
42.	Notes and defects found	Note: _____

Critical check: if it fails, stop and correct it before work continues.

SIGN-OFF

Operator		Supervisor	
Name:	.....	Name:	.....
Signature:	.....	Signature:	.....
Date:	.....	Date:	.....

Legal basis and references

[1] Türkiye: İş Ekipmanlarının Kullanımında Sağlık ve Güvenlik Şartları Yönetmeliği (Resmî Gazete, 25.04.2013; 23.12.2025 değişikliği dahil) — Annex III 1.3–1.3.2 (operator checks before each start of work, visual inspection and function tests, record, taking equipment out of use) and Table 2 (mobile elevating work platforms, yearly unless the standards set another interval, TS EN 280+A1); Art. 7 (periodic inspection, report kept with mobile equipment off the premises); Art. 8 and Annex II 2.1 (trained, assigned operators); Art. 10 (instructions kept with the equipment); Annex I 2.4, 3.1.6, 3.2.2, 3.2.4 (emergency stop, brakes, maximum load marking, people in the carrier: falls, crushing, rescue); Annex II 2.3.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2.2, 3.1.3, 4.1.1, 4.1.6 (work area, stability, communication and evacuation, collective protection, weather).

[2] Türkiye: Yapı İşlerinde İş Sağlığı ve Güvenliği Yönetmeliği (Resmî Gazete, 05.10.2013, 28786) — Annex 4 (B) items 49–51: equipment kept in working order and used by trained people, periodic checks, ground strength verified and levelling or anchoring done before work starts.

[3] Türkiye: Mustafa Çiçekci, Yükseltilebilir Seyyar İş Platformlarının İş Sağlığı ve Güvenliği Yönünden Değerlendirilmesi (Çalışma Uzmanlık Tezi, ÇSGB) — Table 2.1: control criteria for elevating work platforms (emergency stop, load labels, alarms, wheels, elevated drive speed, lanyard point, guardrails, tilt sensor).

[4] United States: OSHA 29 CFR 1926.453, Aerial lifts — (b)(2): controls tested each day, authorized operators, no belting off to adjacent structures, standing on the floor, lanyard, load limits, brakes, outriggers and chocks, upper and lower controls, insulated portion.

[5] United States: OSHA 29 CFR 1910.67, Vehicle-mounted elevating and rotating work platforms — (c)(2): general industry equivalent of 1926.453(b)(2), cited in the FAQs.

[6] United States: OSHA 29 CFR 1926.451, General requirements (scaffolds) — Applies to scissor lifts: (f)(3) competent person inspection before each shift; (f)(6) power line clearances; (g)(1)(vii) guardrails or fall arrest.

[7] United States: OSHA Standard Interpretation, 1 August 2000, Subpart L: Scissor Lifts — Scissor lifts are not covered by 1926.453 and are treated as scaffolds under 1926.451 and 1926.452(w); no tie-off required with properly maintained guardrails.

[8] United States: OSHA Fact Sheet: Aerial Lifts (DSG 4/2011) — Pre-start inspection before each work shift (vehicle and lift components), work zone inspection, fall protection, loading, overhead protection, stability, tag-out.

[9] United States: OSHA eTool: Scaffolding, Scissor Lifts — Guardrails, stabilization, wind, crushing hazards, 10 ft from power lines, testing controls and brakes before each use.

[10] United Kingdom: HSE, Mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs) — Daily visual checks, defect reporting, six-monthly thorough examination, trapping, harness and restraint lanyard, rescue plan, ground conditions, weather, barriers below.

[11] International: IPAF, Personel Yükseltici Platformlar İçin Servis, Bakım ve Denetim İlkeleri (TE-2052-0426-1-tr) — Pre-use inspection by the operator, recording recommended; isolate, tag and report defects; types of periodic inspection.

[12] International: JLG, Operation and Safety Manual 3121289 (450A/450AJ Series II) — One manufacturer's example of a pre-start inspection and function check (sections 1, 2 and 4); always use the manual for your model.

Fill in this checklist on your phone. Scan to download FindRisk: run the checklist, add photos, score risks and share a PDF report in minutes.

Version 1 · Updated November 10, 2026 · findrisk.net/checklists/aerial-work-platform-inspection-checklist/