Overhead Crane Pre-Operation Checklist

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A daily pre-operation checklist for overhead (bridge) cranes. Not a substitute for formal OSHA/ASME B30.2 training — pair this with certified instruction and your workplace's own inspection procedures.

Date: _____ **Operator:** _____

Visual Inspection

- ☐ Check hook for cracks, deformation, or a bent/spread throat opening
- ☐ Confirm the hook safety latch is present and functioning
- ☐ Inspect wire rope or chain for kinks, broken strands, corrosion, or excessive wear
- ☐ Check for visible damage to the load block and rigging hardware
- ☐ Inspect the bridge and trolley for visible damage or loose hardware
- ☐ Confirm warning labels and capacity signage are legible

Operational Check

- ☐ Test the upper and lower limit switches before hoisting a load
- ☐ Test hoist, bridge, and trolley controls for smooth, responsive operation
- ☐ Test the braking system on hoist, bridge, and trolley
- ☐ Test the warning horn/signal
- ☐ Confirm the emergency stop function works correctly

Before Lifting

- ☐ Confirm the load weight is within the crane's rated capacity
- ☐ Confirm rigging is appropriate for the load and properly attached
- ☐ Clear the area beneath and around the intended path of travel
- ☐ Report any issues found above before operating — do not operate a crane with a known safety defect

This checklist is a quick reference and does not replace formal OSHA/ASME B30.2 training or your workplace's own inspection procedures. © Shield Certificates — shieldcerts.com