

Commercial Landscaping Mower & Edger Pre-Use Checklist

Site / Project	_____	Address	_____
Inspector name	_____	Company	_____
Date	_____	Time	_____

Documentation aid only. Adapt this resource to the site, manufacturer instructions, and applicable local requirements. It does not replace a competent person, professional judgment, legal advice, or a required statutory form.

Inspection checklist

Mower & Edger - General Condition

☐ Is the mower/edger free of excessive dirt, debris, and grease? (Reduces fire hazard and improves visibility)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Inspect for fuel or oil leaks. Are any leaks present around the engine, fuel lines, or hydraulic systems?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Examine tires for proper inflation, cuts, bulges, or excessive wear. (Mowers only)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Inspect mower/edger blades for sharpness, cracks, bends, or excessive wear. Are blades properly balanced?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Verify that all nuts, bolts, and screws are securely tightened. Pay special attention to blade mounting hardware.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Check engine oil, hydraulic fluid (if applicable), and coolant levels. Are levels within the recommended range?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Inspect the air filter for cleanliness. Is the air filter clean and properly installed?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Is a spark arrestor present and in good condition (if required by local regulations)?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Inspect battery terminals for corrosion and ensure connections are tight. (Electric start models)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

☐	Verify the starter operates smoothly and the engine starts readily. (Electric start models)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Safety Guards & Shields

☐	Is the mower discharge chute guard securely in place and undamaged? (Mowers only)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is the edger blade guard properly installed and free from damage? (Edgers only)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If the mower is PTO-driven, is the PTO shaft properly shielded and in good condition?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are all belt guards and shields in place and securely fastened?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are pinch point guards (if equipped) properly installed and functional?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Inspect deflectors for damage or missing parts. Are they securely attached?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If equipped with a rear discharge, is the guard in place and undamaged?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If equipped with a side discharge, is the guard in place and undamaged?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Controls & Safety Devices

☐	Verify the deadman switch (operator presence control) functions correctly. Does the engine/blades stop immediately when released?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Test the brakes (if equipped) for proper function. Do the brakes engage smoothly and effectively?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Ensure the throttle control operates smoothly and returns to idle position properly.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Verify steering is responsive and free from excessive play. (Mowers only)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Test reverse operation (if equipped). Does the mower move smoothly and safely in reverse?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Check all interlock systems (e.g., seat switch, blade engagement). Are they functioning correctly?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Verify the blade engagement mechanism operates smoothly and engages/disengages the blades properly.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If equipped, test the emergency stop switch. Does it immediately shut down the engine/blades?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Rollover Protection (Mowers)

☐	If equipped with a Rollover Protection Structure (ROPS), inspect for damage (bends, cracks, corrosion).	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Verify the ROPS is securely mounted to the mower frame with all original hardware.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If equipped with a seatbelt, inspect for wear, fraying, or damage. Ensure it buckles and unbuckles properly.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Verify the seatbelt is securely mounted to the seat frame.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Ensure proper tire pressure is maintained as specified by the manufacturer. (Affects ROPS effectiveness)	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If wheel spacers are used, verify they are properly installed and of the correct type.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	If ballast is used, verify it is properly installed and secured.	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

☐	Are appropriate eye protection (safety glasses or face shield) readily available and in good condition?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is hearing protection (earplugs or earmuffs) readily available and in good condition?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are appropriate work gloves available and in good condition?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are appropriate safety shoes or boots (steel-toe recommended) being worn?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are chaps or other leg protection being used when operating edgers?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is high-visibility clothing (vest or shirt) being worn, especially in areas with vehicular traffic?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Findings

#	Item	Location	Severity	Action required
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Signature

Inspector signature _____

Name _____

Date _____