

Acoustical ceilings rough-in inspection checklist

Acoustical ceilings rough-in is the last time the work is fully visible. Once the cover inspection passes and the walls, ceilings and slabs close, every defect left behind becomes a demolition bill. This checklist walks the rough-in in the order the work goes in, with the photo each item needs before it gets buried. Work is commonly verified against ASTM C635 / C636, the applicable building code. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The ceiling foreman setting grid, or the GC's superintendent confirming above-ceiling trades are complete before tile is released. When: After the grid is hung and before tile is loaded, and only once the MEP work above the ceiling is complete and its own inspections are closed.

Grid layout and suspension

- ☐ **Grid laid out square with balanced border tiles**
Main runners and cross tees square to the room, layout centered so border tiles are balanced and not slivered, grid level across the field. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Hanger wires spaced and tied to structure**
Wires at the required spacing along the mains, plumb and tight, tied to building structure and not to duct, pipe or conduit. 2 photos required

Seismic and perimeter

- ☐ **Seismic bracing and perimeter clips where required**
Bracing wires, compression struts and perimeter attachment or clearance installed per the seismic design, edge conditions and expansion gaps as detailed. 2 photos required

Above-ceiling readiness

- ☐ **Above-ceiling MEP complete and inspected before tile**
Ductwork, piping, wiring and fire-stopping above the ceiling finished and their inspections closed, nothing left that needs the plenum reopened. 2 photos required