

Air compressor annual maintenance checklist

The annual air compressor service is the deep pass: the measurements, cleanings and tests a quarterly round doesn't reach. This checklist keeps the full service on record with the photos that make it defensible later. Work is commonly verified against manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The compressor service tech on the annual service. When: Once a year. The oil change and the relief-valve lift are the two things the quarterly glance never actually does.

Oil service

- ☐ **Oil changed and crankcase checked**
Old oil drained warm and volume noted, refilled to the sight-glass mark with the manufacturer's grade, no metal or sludge in the drained oil. **2 photos required**

Safeties and controls

- ☐ **Safety relief valve manually lifted and reseated**
Valve pulled by its ring against tank pressure, blows freely and reseats without weeping — replaced rather than left in service if it drips or won't lift. **2 photos required**
- ☐ **Pressure switch cut-in/cut-out and unloader verified**
Cut-in and cut-out read at the gauge against the switch setting, unloader bleeds head pressure at shutdown so the motor restarts unloaded. **1 photo required**

Receiver and downstream

- ☐ **Receiver tank and automatic drain serviced**
Tank exterior checked for rust, pitting or bulging at the bottom seam and welds, automatic drain disassembled and cleared, drain valve reseated. **2 photos required**
- ☐ **Aftercooler or air dryer serviced where fitted**
Aftercooler fins cleaned and the coalescing or dryer element checked, dryer holding dewpoint and draining, no water carrying downstream to the shop drops. **1 photo required**