

Deep foundations rough-in inspection checklist

Deep foundations 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 ACI, the project geotechnical report and specifications. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The GC's superintendent or a geotechnical field rep observing installation pier by pier, with the pile crew foreman.
When: As each pile is driven or each shaft is drilled and reinforced, before concrete is placed or the excavation is backfilled — once it's covered the record is all that's left.

Layout and location

- ☐ **Pile head location checked against the plan before installation**
Each pile or shaft center measured against the layout, offset from plan location within the specified tolerance and recorded. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Tip or founding elevation reconciled with the bearing criteria**
Founding elevation surveyed and compared against the depth and bearing stratum called for in the geotechnical report, not just the driving record. 2 photos required

Driven piles

- ☐ **Driving record matched to the acceptance criteria**
Blow count, set and final penetration logged against the specified refusal or capacity criteria for each pile, hammer energy noted. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Pile condition checked before and during driving**
Pile straight and undamaged before pickup, head not brooming or splitting, no visible deviation or heave of adjacent piles. 1 photo required

Drilled shafts and augercast

- ☐ **Hole cleanliness and slurry condition verified before concrete**
Base cleaned of cuttings, slurry properties within the specified range where used, sidewalls stable and free of caving before the pour. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Reinforcement cage placement, cover and support checked**
Cage centered with spacers holding the specified cover all around, dowels and hoops per the drawings, cage supported so it doesn't rack during concreting. 2 photos required