

Fire protection rough-in inspection checklist

Fire protection 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 NFPA 13, NFPA 25. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The sprinkler foreman walking their own rough-in with the GC's superintendent. When: After branch lines and mains are hung and before ceiling grid or drywall closes in, and before the AHJ rough-in inspection is called.

Drawings and coordination

- ☐ Approved sprinkler shop drawings and calcs on site at current revision
Stamped shop drawings and hydraulic calc in the field set match the latest approved revision the crew is hanging from. No photo required
- ☐ Rough-in inspection requested with the AHJ for this zone
Request logged with the date and zone limits, and the super agrees no ceiling work starts in the zone before it passes. No photo required

Piping and hangers

- ☐ Hanger spacing within the allowed interval for the pipe size
Tape measure between hangers on a sample of runs, no unsupported span exceeding the interval for that pipe diameter. 2 photos required
- ☐ Pipe routed with adequate slope for drainage where required
Level or slope gauge on wet and dry system branch lines, direction of pitch toward the drain point. 1 photo required
- ☐ Branch line and main sizing tags legible and matching the hydraulic calculation
Size stamped or tagged on the pipe matches the drawing at transitions and reductions. 1 photo required
- ☐ Hangers anchored to structure, not to other trades' supports
Rods fixed to beams, joists or approved deck inserts; no hanger tied off to ductwork, conduit, cable tray or ceiling wire. 1 photo required
- ☐ Seismic sway bracing installed where the bracing layout shows it
Where the project requires seismic bracing, lateral and longitudinal braces at the drawn locations on mains and risers, fittings tight and attached to structure. No photo required
- ☐ Pipe joints made up per the fitting manufacturer
Coupling gaskets seated and bolts drawn up as listed, threaded joints with no excess exposed thread, CPVC joints fully seated and cured as the manufacturer requires. 1 photo required
- ☐ Clearance around pipe at wall and floor penetrations as detailed
Annular gap or sleeve at each penetration matches the penetration detail so the pipe can move without binding. 1 photo required

Head layout

- ☐ Sprinkler head locations coordinated against the reflected ceiling plan
Head positions overlaid against light fixtures, diffusers and ceiling grid lines before ceiling installation begins. 3 photos required

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| ☐ Head spacing and coverage within the listed area per head
Tape measure between heads and to walls, spacing matching the layout drawing for that hazard classification. | 2 photos required |
| ☐ Deflector distance below the deck or ceiling within the listed range
Measured from deflector to the underside of the deck, structure or planned ceiling line at a sample of heads, including under beams and joists. | 1 photo required |

System components

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| ☐ Riser nipples and drops installed at the correct length for the finished ceiling height
Drop length measured against the ceiling detail so the head will land flush once tile is set. | 1 photo required |
| ☐ Valves, tamper switches and flow switches roughed in at accessible locations
Device location clear of ductwork and other trades' work, accessible for future testing. | 1 photo required |
| ☐ Auxiliary drains and inspector's test connection located as drawn
Drain valves at trapped low points and the test outlet at the drawn location, piped to a spot that can take the discharge. | 1 photo required |