READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Ornamental metals and railings rough-in inspection checklist

Ornamental metals and railings 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 the applicable building code, AWS D1.1. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The railing installer's lead checking the connections, or the GC's superintendent releasing embeds before concrete, tile or drywall covers them. When: After embeds and blocking are set and before the finish covers them, while a missing embed or a wrong anchor can still be added or corrected.

Embeds and base plates

- [ ] Embed and base-plate locations match the drawings
  Every post embed or base plate present at the spacing and stations shown, elevations and setbacks correct, nothing shifted where the layout got crowded.
  2 photos required
- [ ] Post pockets and cores set for the connection
  Cored or formed pockets at the right depth and diameter, clean and ready for the specified grout, not filled with debris or standing water.
  No photo required
- [ ] Substrate at each post base sound and uncracked
  Concrete, stringer steel or framing at each post base free of spalls, honeycomb, cracks or distortion; bad spots flagged to the GC before anything is drilled or welded.
  1 photo required
- [ ] Post base connections set square to the rail line
  Embeds, base plates and pockets aligned with the run and square to it, so posts can stand plumb without field bending or oversized shim stacks.
  1 photo required

Anchorage and blocking

- [ ] Anchor type, size and edge distance verified
  Anchors matching the connection detail, embedment and edge distance from the slab edge within tolerance for the guard load, not undersized field substitutes.
  No photo required
- [ ] Wall blocking for handrail brackets in place
  Solid blocking or backing behind the finish everywhere a bracket lands, located so brackets hit backing rather than hollow wall.
  No photo required
- [ ] Anchor and fastener packaging matches the submittal
  Box or carton labels on the anchors and bracket fasteners on site show the product, size and finish on the approved submittal, not a substitute from the supply house.
  1 photo required
- [ ] First anchor installs observed against the product instructions
  Bit size, hole depth and cleaning, embedment and setting torque follow the anchor manufacturer's instructions on the first connections, before the crew repeats it down the run.
  No photo required

Design documents and inspections

- [ ] Approved railing shop drawings current on site
  Latest approved shop drawing revision in hand; guard and handrail heights, opening limits and extensions read from it and the code plan, not from memory or the last job.
  No photo required

- [ ] Delegated-design submittal reviewed by the engineer of record
  Stamped delegated-design calculations for guard and handrail loads returned reviewed, with anchor, embed and post sizes on the shop drawings matching them.
  No photo required
- [ ] Special inspection needs for anchors and welds identified
  Statement of special inspections read for post-installed anchors and field welds on the rails; inspector scheduled before those connections are covered or finished.
  No photo required
- [ ] Welder qualification records checked before field welding
  A current qualification record on file for each welder making field connections, covering the process and position the rail welds need.
  No photo required

Edge safety and release

- [ ] Temporary edge protection intact at every open edge
  Temporary guardrail, cable or covers in place wherever permanent guards are not yet set; the walk stays inside the site fall protection plan, nobody leaning past the edge to shoot an embed.
  1 photo required
- [ ] Embed and backing walk logged before finishes cover it
  Stairs and edges walked are noted with the date and any open items, and the GC told which areas can take concrete, tile or board and which are held.
  No photo required