

Retaining walls final inspection checklist

Retaining walls final inspection is where the punch list is either short or expensive. This checklist walks the finished work the way an owner or AHJ will see it: devices on, systems running, everything labeled. Each item gets the photo that closes it instead of reopening it. Work is commonly verified against the project geotechnical report and specifications, the applicable building code. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The GC's superintendent with the wall foreman, and the geotech or surveyor where the design calls for monitoring.
When: After the wall is topped out, capped and the site is graded, before the area is released and any survey or settlement monitoring baseline is closed out.

Alignment and batter

- ☐ **Wall face to line, grade and design batter**
Face sighted along its length for bulges or dishing, batter checked against the design, no course stepped out of alignment. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Survey or monitoring points read where required**
Any specified survey or movement-monitoring points established and baselined, readings recorded against the design tolerance. 1 photo required

Caps and top of wall

- ☐ **Cap units set, adhered and aligned**
Caps continuous along the top, bonded with the specified adhesive, joints tight and top edge to a straight line. 2 photos required

Drainage and condition

- ☐ **Drainage outlets located and flowing**
Outlets and cleanouts daylighting where shown, clear of graded fill, water able to leave the drainage zone. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Overall wall condition sound**
No cracked, spalled or displaced units, no separation at corners or steps, grading directing surface water away from the top. 2 photos required