READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Trash compactor annual maintenance checklist

The annual trash compactor 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 compactor-service tech on the annual service visit. When: Once a year, with the unit locked out so the cylinder, controls and each safety can be gone over properly.

Notice and lockout

- [ ] Owner, hauler and loading staff told the service window
  Service date agreed with the owner and hauler so no container swap lands mid-service, and loading staff and chute users kept from loading until the unit is handed back.
  No photo required

- [ ] Every compactor feed locked and tagged for the service
  Power, control and heater feeds locked by each worker, tried dead, ram blocked before the chamber is entered. Load and safety tests: block out, people clear, locks off by whoever hung them, re-locked.
  1 photo required

Hydraulics and structure

- [ ] Cylinder, pressure and ram wear checked under load
  System pressure verified against the instructions, cylinder holding without ram creep, ram face and guide rails not worn or gouged.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Hydraulic pressure bled to zero before hoses are opened
  Ram blocked, pressure relieved as the manufacturer's instructions describe and the gauge read at zero before any hose, fitting or filter housing is loosened.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Hoses, seals and reservoir serviced
  Hoses and seals inspected and replaced as needed, oil and filter changed on interval, breather clear, no external weeping after.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Cylinder pins, clevis and mounts checked for wear
  Cylinder pivot pins, retainers and bushings in place without play or ovaling, mounting brackets and their welds sound, no scoring on the exposed rod.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Charge box, hopper and frame checked for cracks and corrosion
  Welds, floor plate and hopper walls free of cracks and rust-through, anchor bolts to the pad tight, charge box face undamaged by hauler pulls.
  1 photo required

Safety systems tested

- [ ] Every interlock and stop function-tested
  Each access-door interlock and emergency stop actually tripped and confirmed to halt the ram, key control and start sequence verified.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Chute fire door and sprinkler reports checked on chute-fed units
  Where a chute feeds the compactor, the latest fire door and sprinkler inspection reports for the chute and hopper are on file with the owner, with open items noted in this report.
  No photo required

- [ ] Guards, decals and lockout points confirmed
  All guards refitted and secure, safety and hazard decals legible, lockout point functional for the next service.
  1 photo required

Electrical

- [ ] Contactors, connections and cord inspected
  Contactors and terminals tight with no scorching, motor cord and conduit sound in the wet environment, disconnect operating.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Stroke reversal checked at the pressure or limit switch
  Ram reversing at full stroke or full pack from its pressure switch or limit switch, switch mounted tight and set as the manufacturer's instructions show, no dwelling against the stop.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Motor current read against the nameplate during a pack cycle
  Amps read at the motor leads under the site's energized-work procedure and its PPE, compared with the nameplate full-load figure and last year's reading, any rise noted.
  1 photo required

Return to service and record

- [ ] Guards on, locks removed and compactor cycled for staff
  Blocks and tools out, guards and covers fastened, each lock removed by the person who hung it, the compactor run through a normal cycle and handed back to staff.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Service report with pressures and amps left with the owner
  System pressure, motor amps, interlock and stop results and any parts replaced recorded against the unit tag, with open defects and their urgency listed for the owner.
  No photo required