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OPERATIONAL READINESS SERIES

PRACTICAL 15-MINUTE REVIEW

Ride inspection readiness checklist

From pre-opening checks to follow-up: a practical checklist for safer daily ride operations.

A practical internal review tool for ride operations, maintenance and safety teams who want more structure, visibility and follow-up.

Pre-opening checks | In-service checks | Failed checks | Maintenance follow-up | Documentation

FEATURING INSIGHTS FROM

DB

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Ride inspections do not end when the checklist is completed

Daily and recurring ride checks are a core part of safe attraction operations. But the real value is not only in completing the checklist.

It comes when inspections are specific to the ride, completed by trained people, visible to supervisors and connected to clear follow-up when something is missed, failed or unresolved. This checklist helps you review whether your process supports safer, smoother and more structured daily operations.

> “When you open a ride every day, you've got to follow certain processes.”
>
> DAVID BROMILOW

THIS CHECKLIST HELPS YOU REVIEW

- Pre-opening checks
- In-service checks
- Failed or missed checks
- Maintenance follow-up
- Documentation and visibility

How to complete your inspection readiness review

For each statement, mark how your operation works today. Do not treat this as a pass/fail exercise — use it to find where better structure, documentation or follow-up would make the biggest operational difference.

THE RESPONSE SCALE

Yes
In place & consistent
2 pts

Partly
Some of the time
1 pt

No
Not in place
0 pts

Needs review
Unsure / revisit
0 pts

6	12	72
sections to review	maximum per section	maximum total score

Score each section as you work through it, then carry your six section totals to the summary on page 11. A “Needs review” answer is a useful flag, not a failure — it marks something worth checking with your team.

From daily check to documented follow-up

A mature ride inspection process connects the daily routine with the wider operational system. It does not leave important findings in notebooks, memory or informal conversations.

1. **Schedule the check**
   Recurring and pre-opening checks are planned for each ride.
2. **Complete the inspection**
   Trained staff work through the ride-specific checklist.
3. **Capture observations**
   Notes, photos and readings are recorded — not just ticks.
4. **Flag missed or failed items**
   Exceptions surface immediately to supervisors.
5. **Assign follow-up**
   Findings become owned actions with clear due dates.
6. **Document the action**
   Repairs and outcomes are recorded against the ride.
7. **Review patterns**
   Recurring issues inform smarter maintenance planning.

1

Pre-opening inspection readiness

Pre-opening checks should be clearly defined, ride-specific and completed by people who understand what they are checking and why it matters.

	READINESS STATEMENT	YES	PARTLY	NO	NEEDS REVIEW
1	Each ride has a clearly defined pre-opening inspection checklist.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	Checklists are adapted to the specific ride, attraction or device.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	Manufacturer instructions and relevant operational requirements are reflected in the checklist.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	Safety-critical components are clearly included in the inspection routine.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	Operators or technicians are trained on each checklist item they complete.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	Supervisors can see whether pre-opening checks are completed before operation begins.	☐	☐	☐	☐

EXAMPLES OF ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- Restraints and containment systems
- Loading and unloading areas
- Guest restriction signage
- Weather or operating limits
- Control panels and emergency-stop functions
- Ride area condition
- Loose article controls
- Communication procedures

> "You are not just checking that the ride looks good. You have to make sure safety-critical systems are functional."
>
> DAVID BROMILOW

NOTES

SECTION SCORE ___ / 12

2

In-service and recurring checks

Ride inspection does not only happen before opening. Many attractions rely on recurring checks during the day, weekly routines, monthly checks, PPM schedules and seasonal patterns.

	READINESS STATEMENT	YES	PARTLY	NO	NEEDS REVIEW
1	In-service checks are clearly scheduled where required.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	Recurring checks are assigned to the right role, team or location.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	Missed checks are visible to supervisors.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	Check frequency reflects the ride's operating pattern, seasonality and usage.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	Weekly, monthly or periodic checks are documented in a consistent way.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	Planned preventive maintenance routines are linked to inspection history where relevant.	☐	☐	☐	☐

READINESS PROMPT

Can your team quickly see what has been checked, what has been missed and what still needs attention today?

Daily

Pre-opening and in-service

Weekly & monthly

Periodic routines

Seasonal

PPM and opening cycles

NOTES

SECTION SCORE ___ / 12

3

Failed checks, observations and exceptions

The most important inspection information is often found in the exceptions: the failed check, the unusual noise, the repeated observation or the note about wear.

	READINESS STATEMENT	YES	PARTLY	NO	NEEDS REVIEW
1	Staff can clearly mark failed checklist items.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	Staff can add notes, photos or observations to inspection results.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	Failed or unusual findings are automatically visible to supervisors or responsible teams.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	There is a clear process for deciding whether a ride can operate after a failed or flagged item.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	Repeated observations are reviewed before they become recurring failures.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	Informal comments are captured in the system rather than left in memory, notebooks or verbal handovers.	☐	☐	☐	☐

GOOD PRACTICE

A strong inspection process captures both completion and context. A clean checklist with no notes may not always tell the full story.

Notes
Captured during checks

Photos
Attached where useful

Repeat signals
Reviewed before failure

NOTES

SECTION SCORE ___ / 12

4

Maintenance follow-up

A failed check or inspection finding only creates value if it leads to the right follow-up. The process should make ownership, action and closure clear.

	READINESS STATEMENT	YES	PARTLY	NO	NEEDS REVIEW
1	Inspection findings can be turned into assigned follow-up tasks.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	Each follow-up action has a clear owner.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	Due dates or priorities are used where relevant.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	Maintenance teams can see the context behind the finding.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	Completed actions are documented.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	Supervisors can see whether issues are open, in progress or resolved.	☐	☐	☐	☐

FROM FINDING TO CLOSURE

Finding → Assignment → Maintenance action → Documentation → Closure

! WHY IT MATTERS

Without structured follow-up, the same issue can reappear across shifts, teams or operating days. With structured follow-up, everyone can see what happened and what still needs attention.

NOTES

SECTION SCORE ___ / 12

5

Ride history and documentation

Inspection records should create a useful operational history. Teams should understand what happened, when it happened, what was done and whether issues are recurring.

READINESS STATEMENT	YES	PARTLY	NO	NEEDS REVIEW
1 Inspection results are stored in a structured and searchable way.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2 Maintenance teams can review previous findings for a ride or asset.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3 Downtime causes are documented consistently.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4 Incident, near-miss or unusual occurrence records can be connected to operational review.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5 Inspection and maintenance records can be retrieved for internal review or external inspection.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6 Historical data is used to improve maintenance planning.	☐	☐	☐	☐

DOCUMENTATION SHOULD ANSWER

- What was checked?
- When was it checked?
- What action was taken?
- Has this happened before?
- Who checked it?
- What was found?
- What still needs follow-up?

NOTES

SECTION SCORE ___ / 12

6

Management visibility & continuous improvement

Ride inspection data becomes more valuable when managers can use it to spot patterns, reduce recurring issues and improve planning.

	READINESS STATEMENT	YES	PARTLY	NO	NEEDS REVIEW
1	Supervisors can see inspection status across rides or locations.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	Managers can identify missed, failed or incomplete checks.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	Recurring issues are reviewed in team meetings or maintenance planning.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	Reports help teams understand downtime trends and issue patterns.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	Inspection data is used to support smarter maintenance decisions.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	Leadership has visibility into operational readiness during peak periods.	☐	☐	☐	☐

SMARTER MAINTENANCE

When inspection data is visible and structured, teams can move from reacting to issues toward planning, prevention and continuous improvement.

> “The value comes when information is visible to the people already responsible for making decisions.”
>
> DAVID BROMILOW

NOTES

SECTION SCORE ___ / 12

Your ride inspection readiness score

Add up your six section scores, total them out of 72, then read your band below.

	SECTION	YOUR SCORE	MAX
1	Pre-opening inspection readiness	_____	12
2	In-service and recurring checks	_____	12
3	Failed checks, observations and exceptions	_____	12
4	Maintenance follow-up	_____	12
5	Ride history and documentation	_____	12
6	Management visibility & continuous improvement	_____	12

TOTAL READINESS SCORE ____ / 72

0–24	25–48	49–60	61–72
Reactive	Structured	Mature	Improvement-driven

Reactive · 0–24

Routines may depend on informal knowledge, manual follow-up or disconnected records.

Structured · 25–48

Routines exist, but visibility, follow-up or documentation vary across rides, teams or locations.

Mature · 49–60

Core processes are structured, documented and visible. Next: use data more actively.

Improvement-driven · 61–72

Data, follow-up and documentation are connected and used to improve over time.

Turn your lowest section into your next priority

Start with the section where you scored lowest. That is likely where a small improvement in structure, visibility or follow-up could make the biggest operational difference.

If pre-opening readiness scored lowest

Focus on making checklists ride-specific, safety-critical and clearly assigned.

If in-service & recurring checks scored lowest

Focus on scheduling, visibility and supervisor review of missed or incomplete checks.

If failed checks & observations scored lowest

Focus on capturing context, photos, notes and exceptions — not just completion.

If maintenance follow-up scored lowest

Focus on turning inspection findings into assigned actions with clear ownership and closure.

If ride history & documentation scored lowest

Focus on making records searchable, structured and useful for future decisions.

If management visibility scored lowest

Focus on reporting, recurring issue reviews and downtime pattern visibility.

Your 30-day ride inspection improvement plan

Choose one improvement that can realistically be implemented within 30 days. Start small, make it visible, and review whether it improves daily operations.

LOWEST-SCORING SECTION

FIRST IMPROVEMENT ACTION

WHY THIS MATTERS

OWNER

DEADLINE

RIDES / LOCATIONS AFFECTED

HOW WE WILL DOCUMENT PROGRESS

HOW WE WILL REVIEW IMPACT

SUPPORTING ACTIONS

ACTION	OWNER	DUE DATE	STATUS	NOTES

Keep it to a single, realistic improvement. One visible change that sticks is worth more than five that do not.

From ride inspections to structured follow-up

Mobaro helps attractions manage ride inspections as part of a connected daily operations workflow. With Mobaro, teams can:

- Schedule and complete digital ride checklists
- Manage daily, recurring and pre-opening checks
- Make missed, failed or incomplete checks visible
- Capture notes, photos and observations
- Turn findings into assignments
- Document maintenance follow-up
- Review ride history and operational records
- Give supervisors visibility across rides, teams and locations

See how Mobaro can help structure ride inspections and maintenance follow-up

A short, practical walkthrough — no preparation needed.

→ Book a demo

A better inspection process creates better operational visibility

Ride inspections are not just daily routines. They are one of the most important ways attractions create control, visibility and follow-up around safety-critical operations.

When checks are specific, observations are captured, findings are assigned and records are easy to review, teams are better equipped to act before small issues become bigger operational problems.

Checks are specific

Observations are captured

Findings are assigned

Records are easy to review

Use this checklist as a starting point for making ride inspections more visible, actionable and useful across your operation.

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BOOK A DEMO

TALK TO MOBARO

Make ride inspections visible and actionable

Mobaro is the safety, maintenance and operations platform built for the attractions industry.

SEE IT IN ACTION

Book a short demo and see how attractions run ride checks, capture findings and document maintenance follow-up in one place.

→ Book a demo

Scan to book a demo

A NOTE ON THIS GUIDE — This guide is intended as a practical framework to support operational thinking and self-assessment. It does not replace the OEM manuals, instructions and supplementary bulletins for your specific equipment, nor the statutory and regulatory requirements of your Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Always ensure your maintenance and safety programmes meet the relevant international, national and local standards applicable to your operation. When in doubt, seek qualified professional advice.

LEARN MORE

mobaro.com

Featuring insights from David Bromilow — 50-year attractions industry veteran and Mobaro industry advisor.