

Understanding Climbing Kit Inspections

Purpose

To highlight the three main types of climbing kit inspection, who carries them out, and why they matter.

1. Pre-use Checks

When:	Key Points:	Employer Notes:
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Every time equipment is used

Who:

- The climber using the equipment
- Or another competent person

- Never skip a pre-use check
- Know your own kit
- Remove damaged equipment from service immediately

- Provide manufacturer information
- Ensure staff competency
- Periodically audit pre-use checks

2. Recorded Interim Inspections

Purpose:

Provides recorded proof of equipment condition

Legal Requirement:

Required under LOLER regulations

Frequency:

Technical Guide 1 recommends **weekly inspections**.

Recording Methods:

- Paper or PDF forms
- Digital inspection systems

Important:

These inspections must be meaningful — not a box-ticking exercise.

3. Thorough Examination (LOLER)

What:

A formal, detailed examination of climbing equipment

Frequency:

Every **6 months** (or sooner, depending on use)

Who:

A competent **LOLER** examiner with appropriate experience

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Key Takeaways

- ✓ Pre-use checks — every time
- ✓ Recorded interim inspections — regularly
- ✓ LOLER thorough examinations — every 6 months

Person Attending:	Signed:	Date:
Toolbox Talk By	Job Title	

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Notes

