Tall Ships America

Adventure and Education Under Sail®

Recommended Protocol for Rig Inspection and Template for Rig Inspection Checklist



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Recommended Protocol for Rig Inspection and Template for Rig Inspection Checklist

I. Introduction

This product is designed to assist vessel operators to conduct and document routine monthly inspections of the rigging and related hull structures aboard their vessels. This Rig Inspection Checklist is provided as a *template*, and should be adapted by operators as needed to fit the precise needs and complexity of their own vessel's rig. Upon completion of the monthly inspection, the Rig Inspection Checklist should be <u>reviewed and signed by the master</u>, and then maintained on board. In addition to conducting and documenting regular monthly rig inspections, the operator should keep a Rigging Maintenance Logbook documenting all rigging repairs, replacements, renewals etc. Compiled Rig Inspection Checklist records and Rigging Maintenance Logbook entries shall be made available to USCG Marine Inspectors as may be requested during COI inspections.

II. Methodology

The Checklist is organized by mast, with an additional section for the headrig. A single individual should complete the entire inspection for any given section, and this same person should enter and initial each inspection category or item upon completion. Each category shall be assessed a condition based on a number thus: 1 = good, 2 = fair, 3 = poor. Where fair or poor conditions exist, the master shall be notified, and a plan to correct observed deficiencies shall be made. Monthly inspections shall be as thorough as possible, without requiring the removal of protective coatings or other invasive inspection practices (i.e. service removal). In cases where evidence suggests a more in-depth investigation is required (bleeding rust, oversized holes in tangs, significant chafe, etc.), a notation shall be made on the checklist, the master shall be informed and a detailed description, including corrective action taken or planned, shall be entered in the Rigging Maintenance Logbook.

III. Rig Maintenance Logbook

Entries in the rig maintenance logbook shall include any deficiencies found during the monthly inspections and the corrective actions taken or planned. Periodic routine and preventative maintenance activities, and equipment or component repair or replacement shall be logged as well.

IV. Technical Reference

In addition to the use of organizational operations and maintenance manuals, Tall Ships America has compiled a technical reference bibliography as part of this Rigging Protocol. Collectively, these references cover subjects related to the construction, design, installation, inspection and maintenance of traditional and modern sailing rigs.

TECHNICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCE LIST

THIS LIST WAS DEVELOPED AS REFERENCE GUIDE FOR THOSE CHARGED WITH INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SAILING RIGS IN TRADITIONAL SAILING VESSELS. IT IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE, NOR WILL ALL TEXTS APPLY TO ALL VESSELS, BUT IT DOES REPRESENT DEFINITIVE WORKS PERTAINING TO RIGGING IN PERIOD SAILING VESSELS. THE INTENT IS NOT TO PRODUCE A LIST OF WORKS THAT MUST BE KEPT ABOARD, RATHER TO PROVIDE A LIST OF RESOURCES FOR MASTERS, MATES, BOATSWAINS AND OTHERS WORKING IN THE RIG.

- Ashley's Book of Knots, Clifford W. Ashley
- Auxiliary Sail Vessel Operations for the Aspiring Professional Sailor, G. Andy Chase
- Eagle Seamanship-Square Rigger Sailing, USCG Academy
- Hand Reef and Steer, Tom Cuncliffe
- Knight's Modern Seamanship
- Masting and Rigging the Clipper Ship and Ocean Carrier, Harold Underhill
- Naval Ships' Manual Chapter 613-Wire and Fiber Rope and Rigging (Naval Sea Systems Command)
- *The Art of Rigging*, George Biddlecombe
- The Complete Rigger's Apprentice, Brian Toss
- The Gaff Rig Handbook, John Leather
- The Kedge Anchor, Wm. Brady, USN
- The Sailmaker's Apprentice, Emiliano Marino
- The Young Sea Officer's Sheet Anchor, Darcy Lever
- Steel's Elements of Mastmaking, Sailmaking, and Rigging, David Steel, Gill, Claude S.
- Splicing Wire & Fiber Rope (by Raoul Graumont & John Hensel, Cornell Maritime Press)
- Understanding Rigs and Rigging, Richard Henderson

Template for Rig Inspection Checklist

Vessel	l Name	
Officia	al Num	ber
Date o	of Inspe	ction
Crew 1	Membe	er(signature)
Condu	icting the	he Inspection
Master		(signature)
Area -	Main M	ast
A.	Safety	/Crew Support Aloft Init/Date:
	123	Ratlines, ratboards, etc. and method of attachment
	123	Backropes, footropes, cranelines, gantlines, jack-lines, etc.
В.	Mast (including uppers) Init/Date:
	123	Examine mast column
	123	Examine step, partners, wedges, compression post, etc.
	123	Examine crosstrees, spreaders, trestletrees, hounds, etc.
	123	Examine tangs, mast bands, strops
	123	Evaluate condition of protective and lubrication coatings
	123	Antennas, instrument sensors, lights, wiring, etc.
	123	Evaluate mast for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, etc.
C.	Standi	ng Rigging Init/Date:
	123	Shrouds and Stays (Wire/Hemp/Other) - Examine condition of shroud or stay for broken strands, deformation, chafe, rust, discoloration
	123	Wire termination - splices, swages, poured sockets, seizings, etc.
	123	Fittings and terminals - Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear
	123	Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity
	123	Chain plates - Evaluate condition and attachment
	123	Coatings and coverings (service, etc) - Examine condition
	123	Rigging tension - Ensure proper tension
D.	Runnii	ng Rigging Init/Date:
	a. Ev No	valuate condition of Halyards, Sheets, Braces, etc.
	b. Ev	aluate conditions of Blocks
	123	Keeper plates present
	123	Sheaves turning freely
	123	Rope/Metal strops in good condition
	123	Shackles seized/moused
	123	Becket bolts secure
	123	Splices, soft eyes, etc.

- E. Sails Init/Date: 123 Evaluate condition of cloth, stitching, patches, reinforcements 123 Cringles, Earrings, etc 123 Bolt ropes Lashings, Shackles, attachments 123 123 Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - ---- - -Init/Date: 123 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 123 Evaluate spars for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, deformation, etc. 123 Coatings 123 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware --Init/Date: Winches/Crank-alls, etc 123 Attachment point 123 Functioning properly 123 Dogs and stops 123 Tracks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks 123 Pin rails, fife rails Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins 123 Area-Fore Mast A. Safety/Crew Support Aloft --- -Init/Date: 123 Ratlines, ratboards, etc. and method of attachment 123 Backropes, footropes, cranelines, gantlines, jack-lines, etc. B. Mast (including uppers) - -Init/Date:_____ --123 Examine mast column 123 Examine step, partners, wedges, compression post, etc. 123 Examine crosstrees, spreaders, trestletrees, hounds, etc. 123 Examine tangs, mast bands, strops Evaluate condition of protective and lubrication coatings 123 123 Antennas, instrument sensors, lights, wiring, etc. 123 Evaluate mast for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, etc. -- - -Init/Date:____ C. Standing Rigging -123 Shrouds and Stays (Wire/Hemp/Chain/Other) - Examine condition of shroud or stay for broken strands, deformation, chafe, rust, discoloration
 - ¹ ² ³ Wire termination splices, swages, poured sockets, seizings, etc.
 - ^{1 2 3} Fittings and terminals Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear
 - ¹² ³ Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards Examine condition and integrity
 - ¹² ³ Chain plates Evaluate condition and attachment
 - ¹² ³ Coatings and coverings (service, etc) Examine condition
 - ¹ ² ³ Rigging tension Ensure proper tension

 a. Evaluate condition of Halyards, Sheets, Braces, etc. Notes: b. Evaluate conditions of Blocks 121 Keeper plates present 122 Shoaves turning freely 123 Received Moused 123 Becket bolts secure 123 Becket bolts secure 123 Splices, soft eyes, etc. E. Sails	D. Runn	ning Rigging	- Init/Date:					
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b. Evaluate conditions of Blocks 2.2 A Keeper plates present 2.3 Sheaves turning freely 2.3 Rope/Metal strops in good condition 2.3 Shackles setzed/moused 2.3 Becket bolts secure 2.3 Becket bolts secure 2.3 Splices, soft eyes, etc. E. Sails Cringles, Earrings, etc 2.3 Cringles, Earrings, etc 2.3 Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars Cringles, Taracks, Starker, Sates, Starker, Starker, Sates, Starker, Sates, Starker, Starker, Starker, Sates, Starker, St	N	Notes:						
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 123 Sheaves turning freely 123 Rope/Metal strops in good condition 123 Shackles seized/moused 123 Shackles seized/moused 123 Splices, soft eyes, etc. E. Sails Init/Date:	123	Keeper plates present						
1 23 Rope/Metal strops in good condition 1 23 Shackles setured/moused 1 23 Becket boits secure 1 23 Splices, soft eyes, etc. E Sails - 1 23 Evaluate condition of cloth, stitching, patches, reinforcements 1 23 Cringles, Earrings, etc 1 23 Reefing gear (points, netties, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - 7.3 Reefing gear (points, netties, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - 1 24 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 1 25 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 1 26 Coatings 1 27 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware - 1 24 Hunctioning properly 1 23 Punctioning properly 1 23 Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins Area-Headrig A. Safety/Crew Support - 1 27 Functioning properly 1 28 Examine forware: cranse iron, spreaders, martingale, etc. 1 29 Evaluate condition of protective and	123	Sheaves turning freely						
 1 23 Shackles seized/moused 1 23 Becket bolts secure 1 23 Splices, soft eyes, etc. E. Sails Int/Date:	123	Rope/Metal strops in good condition						
123 Becket boins secure 123 Splices, soft eyes, etc. E. Sails	123	Shackles seized/moused						
 E. Sails Init/Date:	123	Becket bolts secure						
 E. Sails	123	Splices, soit eyes, etc.						
123 Evaluate condition of cloth, stitching, patches, reinforcements 123 Chingles, Earrings, etc 123 Boht ropes 123 Lashings, Shackles, attachments 123 Lashings, Shackles, attachments 123 Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - - 123 Hardware - ironwork, parels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 123 Evaluate spars for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, deformation, etc. 123 Coatings 123 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware - - Winches/Crank-alls, etc - 123 Functioning properly 123 Tracks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks 123 Founctioning properly 123 Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins Area-Headrig - A. Safety/Crew Support - 123 Footropes 123 Netting 123 Examine heal, kingpost, partners, etc 123 Examine heal, kingpost, partners, etc 123 Examine ironwork and hardware: cranse iron, spreaders, mar	E. Sails	;	Init/Date:					
123 Cringles, Earrings, etc 123 Bolt ropes 123 Lashings, Shackles, attachments 123 Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - 123 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 123 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 123 Evaluate spars for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, deformation, etc. 123 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware - 123 Penetration points G. Deck/Ardware - 123 Functioning properly 123 Functioning properly 123 Tracks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks 123 Tracks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks 123 Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins Area-Headrig A. Safety/Crew Support - 123 Footropes 123 Footropes 123 Examine bowsprit and jib-boom 123 Examine bowsprit and jib-boom 123 Examine bowsprit and jib-boom 123 Examine towsprit and jib-boom <td>123</td> <td>Evaluate condition of cloth, stitching, patches, reinforcer</td> <td>nents</td>	123	Evaluate condition of cloth, stitching, patches, reinforcer	nents					
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1:3 Lashings, Shackles, attachments 1:23 Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - - 1:3 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, balls, goosenecks, fittings 1:3 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, balls, goosenecks, fittings 1:3 Evaluate spars for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, deformation, etc. 1:3 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware - - 1:3 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware - - 1:3 Penetration points - G. Deck Hardware - - 1:3 Functioning properly - 1:3 Functioning properly - 1:3 Dogs and stops - 1:3 Tracks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks - 1:3 Pin rails, fife rails - 1:3 Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins Area-Headrig - - A. Safety/Crew Support - - 1:3 Examine bowsprit and jib-boom - 1:3 Examine bowsprit and jib-boom	123	Bolt ropes						
123 Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.) F. Spars - - Init/Date:	123	Lashings, Shackles, attachments						
F. Spars Init/Date:	123	Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.)						
123 Hardware - ironwork, parrels, bails, goosenecks, fittings 123 Evaluate spars for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking, corrosion, deformation, etc. 123 Coatings 123 Penetration points 6. Deck Hardware Init/Date:	F Spars	°	Init/Date:					
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123 Coatings 123 Penetration points 6. Deck Hardware - - Init/Date:	123	Evaluate spars for rust, rot, cracks, excessive checking,	corrosion, deformation, etc.					
123 Penetration points G. Deck Hardware - - Init/Date:	123	Coatings						
 G. Deck Hardware	123	Penetration points						
G. Deck Hardware - - - Init/Date:								
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1 2 3 Pin rails, fife rails 1 2 3 Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins Area-Headrig A. Safety/Crew Support - - Init/Date:	123	Tracks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks						
123 Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins Area-Headrig A. Safety/Crew Support - - Init/Date:	123	Pin rails, fife rails						
Area-Headrig A. Safety/Crew Support - - Init/Date:	123	Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins						
 A. Safety/Crew Support Init/Date:	Area-Hea	adrig						
 A. Safety/Crew Support Init/Date:								
 1 2 3 Footropes 1 2 3 Netting 1 2 3 Lifelines, jack-ropes, etc. B. Bowsprit (including jib-boom) Init/Date:	A. Safet	ty/Crew Support	Init/Date:					
 1 2 3 Netting 1 2 3 Lifelines, jack-ropes, etc. B. Bowsprit (including jib-boom) Init/Date:	123	Footropes						
 B. Bowsprit (including jib-boom) Init/Date:	123							
 B. Bowsprit (including jib-boom) Init/Date:	123	Lifelines, Jack-ropes, etc.						
 1 2 3 Examine bowsprit and jib-boom 1 2 3 Examine heel, kingpost, partners, etc 1 2 3 Examine ironwork and hardware: cranse iron, spreaders, martingale, etc. 1 2 3 Evaluate condition of protective and lubrication coatings C. Standing Rigging Init/Date: 1 2 3 Shrouds and Stays (Wire/Hemp/Chain/Other) - Examine condition of shroud or stay for broken strands, deformation, chafe, rust, discoloration 1 2 3 Wire termination - splices, swages, poured sockets, seizings, etc. 1 2 3 Fittings and terminals - Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear 1 2 3 Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity 1 2 3 Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment 	B. Bows	sprit (including jib-boom)	Init/Date:					
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 ¹ ² ³ Evaluate condition of protective and lubrication coatings C. Standing Rigging Init/Date: ¹ ² ³ Shrouds and Stays (Wire/Hemp/Chain/Other) - Examine condition of shroud or stay for broken strands, deformation, chafe, rust, discoloration ¹ ² ³ Wire termination - splices, swages, poured sockets, seizings, etc. ¹ ² ³ Fittings and terminals - Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear ¹ ² ³ Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity ¹ ² ³ Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment 	123	Examine ironwork and hardware: cranse iron, spreaders	, martingale, etc.					
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 ¹ ² ³ Shirotus and stays (when hemp/chain/other) - Examine condition of shoud of stay for broken strands, deformation, chafe, rust, discoloration ¹ ² ³ Wire termination - splices, swages, poured sockets, seizings, etc. ¹ ² ³ Fittings and terminals - Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear ¹ ² ³ Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity ¹ ² ³ Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment 	U. Stall(Shrouds and Stave (Wire/Hemp/Chain/Othor) Evening	condition of shroud or stay for					
 ¹ ² ³ Wire termination - splices, swages, poured sockets, seizings, etc. ¹ ² ³ Fittings and terminals - Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear ¹ ² ³ Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity ¹ ² ³ Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment 	1 2 3	broken strands, deformation, chafe, rust, discoloration	Somution of Shioud of Slay IUI					
 Fittings and terminalis - Examine for cracks, rust, corrosion, deformation, wear Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment 	1 7 २	Wire termination - splices swages poured sockets sol	zinas etc					
 ¹ ² ³ Turnbuckles, bottlescrews, deadeyes and lanyards - Examine condition and integrity ¹ ² ³ Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment 	123	Fittings and terminals - Examine for cracks rust correst	on deformation wear					
¹ ² ³ Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attachment	123	1 2 3 Turnhuckles hottlescrews deadeves and lanvards - Examine condition and integrity						
	123	Chain plates, stem fittings - Evaluate condition and attac	hment					
¹ ² ³ Coatings and coverings (service, etc) - Examine condition	123	Coatings and coverings (service, etc) - Examine condition	on					

1 2 3 Rigging tension - Ensure proper tension

D.). Running Rigging Init/Date:					
	a. Evaluate condition of Halyards, Sheets, Braces, etc.					
	No	otes:				
	b. Ev	aluate conditions of Blocks				
	123	Keeper plates present				
	123	Sheaves turning freely				
	123	Rope/Metal strops in good condition				
	123	Shackles seized/moused				
	123	Becket bolts secure				
	123	Splices, soft eyes, etc.				
E.	Sails	In	it/Date:			
	its					
	123	Cringles, Earrings, etc				
	123	Bolt ropes				
	123	Lashings, Shackles, attachments				
	123	Reefing gear (points, nettles, outhauls, etc.)				
F	Snars	In	it/Date:			
۰.	1 2 3	Hardware, ironwork parrels bails goosenecks fittings				
	1 2 3 Evaluate enar for rust rot corresion deformation					
	123	Coatings				
	123	Penetration points				
~	.					
G.	Deck Hardware Init/Date:					
	VVI	inches/Crank-alls, etc				
	1 2	Attachment point				
	12	³ Functioning properly				
	12	³ Dogs and stops				
	123	I racks, travelers, pad eyes, turning blocks				
	123	Pin rails, fife rails				

¹ ² ³ Cleats, bits, bollards, kevels, belaying pins