



General:

- Scissor lifts are aerial work platforms used to safely move operators vertically and allow them to work at varying heights.
- Only trained operators may use a scissor lift.

Responsibilities:

- Managers will provide employees with the correct training and information on how to operate scissor lifts safely.
- Employees will comply with safety and training requirements as well as immediately report any safety concerns to their manager.
- EH&S is available to provide consultations, guidance on use, and to answer any questions.

Scissor Lifts:

- Scissor lifts come with their own unique hazards that the operator must keep in mind. Some of those are:
 - **Wind speeds:** the max wind speed for scissor lift operation is **28 mph**.
 - Wind direction: if the scissor lift is facing broadside to the wind, it has a higher risk of tipping over.
 - Slope: scissor lifts should only be used on level terrain where they won't be at an angle.
 - Electrical lines: be aware of what is above and around the work platform. Take potential sway into account when determining how far away you need to be to avoid contact.
 - Falling: ensure that all guardrails are properly installed and in good working condition.
 - Collapse: Ensure that safety systems designed to stop collapsing are maintained and not bypassed and never allow the weight on the work platform to exceed the manufacturer's load rating.
- If the scissor lift includes outriggers, ensure that they are properly deployed before using the scissor lift.

Training:

- All scissor lift operators must be trained by a competent operator on the specific piece of equipment they will be using.
- Scissor lift operators will be reevaluated at least once every three years.
- Minimum required training shall include:
 - Manufacturer's instructions for operating the scissor lift vertically and while in transit.
 - How to handle materials on the scissor lift, including weight limits.
 - Other worksite hazards workers may encounter when working on a scissor lift (e.g., contact with electrical wires).
 - Reporting any equipment defects or maintenance needs.

Inspections:

- See attached Pre-operation checklist.
- Pre-Use: Before use each day or at the beginning of each shift, the scissor lift shall be given a visual inspection and functional test by the operator.
- Annual: An annual inspection is required and must be conducted by an authorized person qualified as a mechanic on the type of aerial/scissor lift.

Recordkeeping Requirements:

- Must maintain records of all aerial/lift training, 3 year reevaluations, pre-use inspections, annual equipment inspections, and repair records.

Reference: <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3842.pdf>



An example of a scissor lift.

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Scissor Lift Pre-Operation Checklist

Scissor Lift Model: _____ Serial Number: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ AM / PM (circle one)

WEARING FALL PROTECTION IS OPTIONAL BUT RECOMMENDED

Pre-Operation	Pass	Fail	N/A
KEY OFF Procedures			
Check that the operator's manual, decals are in place and legible,			
Check Hydraulic cylinders/Lifting mechanism/Fluid level			
Check welds, pins, missing nuts or bolts and other structural parts for cracks or defects			
Check outriggers, outrigger limiting switches, and locking pins			
Check platform entry mid-rail/gate, and platform housekeeping			
Check battery level to assure that the unit can operate the duration of the job			
Tires/Rollers/Monitor tire air pressure if pneumatic			
KEY ON Procedures			
Check all ground controls for proper operation, including emergency lowering means			
Check all basket controls, foot switch, horn for proper operation			
Steering and drive system			
Check limit switches, alarms, and flashing beacon if equipped			
Site Evaluation	YES	NO	N/A
Is the work surface structurally strong enough to handle the lift, and free of drop-offs?			
Are surface conditions where the lift is used free of obstructions and on level surface?			
Are there proper barricades to control pedestrian and vehicle traffic in work zone?			
Are there overhead obstructions or restricted places where the lift will be operated?			
Will the basket handle the loads to be carried without exceeding the rated capacity?			
Are there ramps and other sloped surfaces that could affect the vehicle's stability?			
Will the lift be used for electrical work or near high voltage lines?			
Are there 'Classified Hazardous' locations where the vehicle will be operated?			
Is there an enclosed environment(s) or other areas where insufficient ventilation or poor vehicle maintenance could cause a build-up of carbon monoxide or diesel exhaust buildup for combustion motors, or hydrogen gas buildup at electric vehicle recharging stations?			
Is wind or other weather a concern? Are there sustained winds or gusts stronger than the manufacturer's rated design allowance?			
List below other potentially hazardous site-conditions that could affect safe operation:			
Operator's Name: (Printed / Signature)			

Instructions: Operator must check off each item as having been inspected and safe to use during daily inspection prior to operation. Complete the Work Site Evaluation for every new location.