



Confined Spaces Checklist:

storage tanks, sewers, acid tanks, tunnels, manholes, boilers, etc.

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Before entering a confined space:

- Disconnect or blind all pumps and lines to prevent the possibility of air contamination.
- Make accidental reconnection of the lines or valves impossible.
- Lock off all electrical equipment and mechanical devices capable of causing injury, and leave the key with person working in the confined space.
- Empty, purge, or flush the confined space to remove dangerous substances.
- Ventilate any hazardous atmosphere (unless workers use protective equipment).
- Inspect equipment for defects and ignition hazards.
- Install a railing to prevent an accidental fall through the opening.

Testing the air:

- Test the air in the confined space from as far outside the confined space, as possible.
- For workers entering without protective gear, test for:
 - Oxygen
 - Flammables
 - Toxic materials expected to be present.

Inside the confined space:

- At least one worker entering the confined space must wear an alarm device that reads the air for oxygen and dangerous gasses.
- If an attendant is present outside the space, he must test the air no less than once per hour.

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If the air inside is dangerous:

- Workers must wear a harness and retrieval line and appropriate protective equipment, including a breathing apparatus.
- An attendant must be stationed outside the confined space, and he must be able to call for help.
- Rescue teams must be available.
- No sources of ignition can enter, including:
 - Fans that might spark a fire
 - Cylinders of compressed gasses
 - Electric tools with exposed wires

Employer must keep a written entry permit system, which shall in shall include:

- the minimum standards necessary for entry into the confined space;
- the record of atmospheric tests;
- calibration dates for the oxygen detector and combustible gas indicator
- the signature of the person responsible for the permit;
- a written description of the work to be done;
- an expiration time of no more than twelve hours for any permits granted.

Training requirements:

- Train all employees entering the space in hazard recognition, equipment use, tagging, and emergency procedures.
- Train rescue teams to use their equipment, to remove a body through an opening the size of the real space. At least one member of the rescue team must hold current CPR and first aid certifications.

