

Inspection of equipment

When you use fall-protection you expect to get your job done safely. Each time you use a personal fall-arrest, restraint, or positioning-device system, inspect the components for damage or excessive wear. Replace any components that looks damaged. **Don't use a personal fall-arrest system that has arrested a fall.**

Table 2 Inspecting Fall Protection

Component	What to look for
Harness webbing	Frayed edges, broken fibers, pulled stitches. Cuts, burns and chemical damage
Harness D-ring	Cracks, breaks, and rough or sharp edges
Harness buckles	Excessive wear, frayed or cut fibers, broken stitching
Lifelines	Wear or deterioration
Anchorage and connectors	Look for abrasion and damaged threads. Inspect stitching and loops on synthetic slings for cuts, cracks, or frayed and broken stitching. Look for excessive kinks or damaged steel fibers.
Snap hooks	Cracks, excessive wear and corrosion. Snap hooks should open easily and close firmly. Keeper locks must prevent the keeper from opening when it is closed.
Webbing lanyard	Cuts, frayed strands, or excessive wear
Rope lanyard	Cuts, frayed fibers. The entire length of the rope should have the same diameter
Shock-absorbing lanyard	Cuts, discoloration, cracks, frayed or broken stitching. Remove a lanyard from service if any part of the warning label is exposed
Self-retracting lifeline	Cuts, frayed strands, or excessive wear in the line and damage to the housing.

A person selected, suitable trained and authorized must be appointed to do three monthly and annual inspections on all fall arrest equipment. These inspections need to be recorded and records of these inspections kept for the lifespan of the equipment