

WOODSHOP SAFETY

# Hobby Woodshop Dust Collection Inspection Checklist

10 Checks to Run Before Your Next Project · Fire Safety · System Performance

*For informational use only. Does not take the place of a formal Dust Hazards Analysis.*

Facility Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Completed By \_\_\_\_\_

Shop Type \_\_\_\_\_

## 0 1

### FIRE & COMBUSTIBLE DUST BASICS

CRITICAL

Requirement	YES	NO	N/A	Notes
<b>1. ● The dust collector is located away from ignition sources and not placed directly against a wall where heat can build up.</b> <i>Wood dust is combustible. Collectors placed near heaters, grinders, or sawing sparks create a fire risk.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>2. ● The collection bag or drum is emptied regularly and never allowed to fill more than two-thirds full.</b> <i>An overfull drum backs up into the impeller cone, kills suction, and stores a large volume of combustible dust in one place.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>3. The dust collector and all metal ductwork components are grounded to prevent static discharge.</b> <i>Static buildup in fine wood dust is an ignition source. Ground the collector housing and bond ductwork joints.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>4. The dust collector is not operated when flammable finishes, lacquers, or solvents are being applied nearby.</b> <i>A collector motor running near airborne lacquer or solvent fumes creates a direct ignition source. Shut down the collector and ventilate before spraying any finish.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## 0 2

### SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

HIGH

Requirement	YES	NO	N/A	Notes
<b>5. Suction at each machine port feels strong and consistent and has not noticeably weakened since installation.</b> <i>Gradual suction loss usually means a loaded filter, a full drum, or a kinked flex hose. Check these before replacing equipment.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

6. Flex hose connections between machines and the trunk duct are as short as possible and free of kinks or collapses.

*Ribbed flexible hose creates 3x the friction resistance of smooth metal pipe. Long flex runs are the most common cause of poor pickup.*

■      ■      ■

7. All blast gates are fully open on machines being used and confirmed closed on idle machines.

*A partially open blast gate on an idle machine bleeds airflow away from the machine you are actually running.*

■      ■      ■

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**FILTER & MAINTENANCE**

**MEDIUM**

Requirement	YES	NO	N/A	Notes
8. The filter is cleaned or replaced on a regular schedule, not just when suction noticeably drops. <i>A filter that looks clean from the outside can still be blinded on the media surface. Suction loss is a lagging indicator.</i>	■	■	■	
9. If sanding MDF, the filter is rated 1 micron or better. Standard cloth bag filters do not capture MDF dust adequately. <i>MDF generates very fine particles that pass through standard bag media and recirculate into the breathing zone.</i>	■	■	■	
10. The area around the dust collector and under workbenches is swept or vacuumed at the end of each work session. <i>Fine wood dust settling near the collector is a fire hazard if the motor throws a spark or overheats. Keep a 3-foot clear zone around the unit.</i>	■	■	■	

● YES = Compliant ● NO = Gap — corrective action required ● N/A = Not applicable

Assessor Name & Title

Signature / Date

Next Review Date

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## Questions About Your Woodshop Dust System?

We help woodshops of every size get the right system. No pressure, just practical advice.

- ✓ **Dust Collector Sizing for Your Tool List**
- ✓ **Filter & Media Recommendations**
- ✓ **Ductwork Layout Advice**
- ✓ **Most Questions Answered Same Day — No Pressure**

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