Inspecting Retaining Walls Checklist

There are several inspection checks that an inspector needs to carry out both during and after construction. The following are the most common. Note that some of the checks will not apply to every type of wall.

Note that some specifications described in the following content may not be the same as the specifications followed by your agency. Always check with your State agency's standards and specifications when using these guidelines.

Key Inspection Checks

- Check that all unsuitable materials have been removed from the soil below the wall
- Check that the leveling pad is at the correct grade, is level, and is undamaged
- Check that the wall is tilted slightly back toward the fill area during construction
- Check that the backfill is well compacted during construction
- Ensure the wall installation/pour is done using the proper methods
- Test concrete for air content and slump
- Make strength specimens according to specifications
- Determine what protection is required for the concrete wall