

THE RANGER INSPECTION

The quality and representation of equipment is not equal, and evaluating a piece of equipment can often be more art than science. Listed below, you'll find a short summary of inspection points and questions that will ensure you get what you are paying for:

Serial Number & Data Tags: Are they present, and are they accurate?

Water Damage: Are there any hidden areas that mask damage from water?

Carriages & Masts: Are they original, are there changes to the original mast and carriage configuration, and if so, why?

Engine: Has the engine been checked for blow by? How long was the unit run during the test? Was any oil noted blowing out of the dip stick and valve cover?

Braking System: Wet disc brakes are a killer. Were the brakes inspected and was a "% worn" figure noted?

Injector Pumps: Were these inspected, and was anything noted accordingly?

Fault Codes on Computers: Late model trucks can often have confusing diagnostics, and it's tough to get good information from equipment sometimes. Was anything noted in this area during the inspection?

Transmissions: Another costly item that can be avoided. Did the unit shift with ease and have power during all gear cycles? Was there any noted power loss at any time?

Special Attachments: Look out for hoses and abnormalities, especially clamp trucks. Carriage and rollers are usually bent or rollers are bad. And on any machine, loose carriages are a dead give-away there might be something else wrong. Ask about the condition of the attachment.



Gauges and Instrument Clusters: Are the gauges and instruments working properly? Were they checked during inspection?

General Condition: If it's rough on the outside, it usually means it's rough on the inside. Was the exterior, paint and frame noted for any abnormalities?

Counterweights: These can be changed and affect safety and liability.

For example:

- **Capacity:** There are differences in rated capacity and actual capacity. For example, a 21K machine might be 19K machine. Know your OEM's or know your resources
- **Stamps:** Numbers are typically stamped on rear of counterweight, check for verification
- **Counterweight Measurement:** These vary by machine manufacturer and model. For example, a 13.5K machine is 28 inches in length, a 15.5K machine is 29. If these are altered, safety may be compromised
- **Questions to Ask:** Is the counterweight original, and is it per OEM specification?

Floor Plates: Were the floor plates pulled, and were there any obvious problem area?

Special Applications: Industries and special applications require special attention. For example, forging, recycling, heavy fabrication and dusty and hot environments affect the value of a machine, and can potentially lead to problems down the road. Ask where the machine came from and what the general environment is.

Dealer Rental Units: We know the phrase "it's just a rental" just as well as you do. Rental units require the same detailed inspection as the above no matter where it came from.



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