

Tips on How to Pass your HCV Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Inspection

Rule 1 - All unoccupied dwellings must be empty with all utilities on. All occupied dwellings must have all utilities on.

Rule 2 - If it is in the dwelling, it must operate as designed.

Rule 3 - If it is broken, please fix it.

EXTERIOR:

1. Foundation must be free of large gaps, missing bricks, broken concrete, or missing mortar.
2. Siding must be in good condition.
3. Painted surfaces, interior or exterior, should not have peeling or flaking to 20% or more of the surface area. This includes garage and sheds. Stabilize area and paint. There should be no rotting wood on fascia and soffits.
4. Roofs, gutters, and downspouts must be in good condition.
5. Railings must be installed when there are 4 or more steps, and it must be secure.
6. Porches and decks 30" high or more from the ground must have a railing.
7. No overgrown vegetation (weeds, trees, and grass). No trip hazards / bulging or deteriorated concrete driveways or sidewalks.

INTERIOR:

8. All doors must open, close and latch. Exterior doors must lock. Walls, floors, and ceilings must be in good condition- no peeling paint or holes. No trip hazards.
9. Plumbing- No leaks. Water pressure must be adequate. Sinks and tubs must have stoppers. Toilets must be attached securely to the floor.
10. Windows- Windows must open and close. Windows 6 feet or less from the ground must lock. Windows should not have broken glass.
11. Appliances- All burners and oven must work. Furnaces and A/C must operate, and clean filters installed regularly.
12. Water heater- plumbing up to code. Pressure relief valves must have discharge tube no more than 6 inches from the floor.
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15. Electrical- All outlets must work properly and not be loose. All light fixtures must work. Bathrooms and kitchen must have a permanent ceiling or wall light fixture and one outlet.
16. Bedrooms and living room must have a permanent light fixture or 2 working outlets. No wires, junction boxes or knock outs can be missing or exposed anywhere.
17. All GFCI must be working. All 3-pronged outlets must be grounded.
18. Smoke alarms must be in every bedroom and on all levels including basements. Smoke alarms must be in working condition.
19. Ventilation- If there is an exhaust fan in the unit, it must be operational even if a window is in the room. If the bathroom has no exhaust fan, there must be a window present. If range hood is in the unit, it must work.