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	STANDARD: **OSHA 29 CFR 1910.176 & ANSI MH1.6.2**	AUDIT FREQUENCY: **Weekly Audit**

Retail Backroom Pallet Stack Safety Audit Safety Audit Checklist

Operational Scope: Establishes a mandatory evaluation framework for backroom pallet storage and staging to eliminate structural collapse, tip-overs, and struck-by injuries. Ensures full compliance with OSHA standards for material handling and storage.

MANDATORY PPE:	Steel-Toe Boots (ASTM F2413), High-Visibility Reflective Vest, Safety Glasses (ANSI Z87.1), Cut-Resistant Gloves
PREREQUISITES:	Verify all motorized pallet jacks and forklifts are parked and powered down before entering racking zones | Ensure adequate aisle lighting (minimum 20 foot-candles) is active throughout the backroom storage area

PALLET STACK STABILITY AND STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
1	**Pallet Wood Condition**	Pallets must be free of broken stringers, missing deck boards, protruding nails, or severe warping that compromises structural integrity.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
2	**Stack Height Limits**	Free-standing pallet stacks do not exceed maximum allowable height limits (max 3 high for empty pallets, strictly 2 high for stable unit loads).	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
3	**Load Overhang & Interlocking**	Merchandise does not overhang pallet edges by more than 1 inch; stacked loads are squared, interlocked, and evenly distributed.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
4	**Stretch Wrapping & Containment**	Hand or machine-wrapped loads have a minimum of 3 overlapping layers of stretch film securing the product securely to the pallet base.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

AISLE CLEARANCE, STAGING, AND EGRESS SAFETY

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
5	**Fire Sprinkler Clearance**	Top of pallet stack maintains a mandatory minimum clearance of 18 inches below fire sprinkler heads (36 inches for high-density rack storage).	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
6	**Aisle Width & Yellow Line Markings**	Backroom aisles and walking-working surfaces remain clear of stray pallets, maintaining unobstructed paths for emergency egress and material handling equipment.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
7	**Pallet Rack Upright Protection**	Storage rack uprights and end-of-aisle frames are equipped with undamaged steel floor-bolted guards and column protectors.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

DAMAGED INVENTORY AND HOUSEKEEPING

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
8	**Leaning or Compromised Stacks**	No pallet stack exhibits a lean exceeding 2 degrees from vertical; leaning or unstable loads are immediately downstacked or banded.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
9	**Debris and Slip Hazards**	Floor surrounding pallet storage zones is completely free of loose stretch wrap, cardboard strapping, wood splinters, and liquid spills.	**Standard**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

Certified Inspector / Lead Operator Signature: _____	**Date / Time:** _____	**Badge / Cert #:** _____
Site Safety Supervisor / Operations Manager Sign-off: _____	**Review Date:** _____	**Audit Status:** [ ] Approved [ ] Rectify

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