# Bed rail check (MHRA, Bed rails: management and safe use)

**Bed ID and location**

**Bed rail ID (serial number, UDI or in-house number)**

**Rail type (integral, or third-party make and model)**

**Mattress in use (type and size)**

**Reason (planned maintenance, after fitting, after a change, other)**

**Date**

**Checked by**

**Next check due (from your local policy)**

**CHECKS (FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE FIRST)**

| Check | Pass | Fail | N/A |
|---|---|---|---|
| The current version of the manufacturer's instructions for use is the one being followed | | | |
| Rails are fitted to this bed as the manufacturer's instructions say, and the person fitting them knows how | | | |
| Mounting clamps, if present, are the right way round and in good condition | | | |
| No gap between the lower bar and the top of the mattress, and the mattress edge does not compress into a gap | | | |
| No gap between the rail and the side of the mattress, the headboard or the footboard that could trap the head or body | | | |
| Gap between the end of the rail and the headboard is not over 60 mm | | | |
| No accessible opening between the rail and the mattress platform over 120 mm | | | |
| Rail is secure and robust and cannot move away from the side of the bed or mattress | | | |
| Mattress size and height suit the rail (extra-height rails where an overlay is used) | | | |
| No gaps filled with blankets, bedding or pillows | | | |
| No rust; welded joints sound, not cracking | | | |
| No cracked paint or coating, and no flaking or peeling chrome | | | |
| No missing locking handles, fixing clamps, clamp pads or other components | | | |
| No loose fixings, and no free movement in joints | | | |
| No stripped threads on bed frame clamps | | | |
| No bent or distorted components, and no damaged plastic parts | | | |
| Labelling intact | | | |

**FAULTS FOUND AND ACTION TAKEN**

| Fault found | Action taken | Reported to | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

**Rail withdrawn from use? (yes / no). MHRA: withdraw rails that are unsuitable or in poor condition, and don't store them for reuse**

**Checked by (signature)**

**Date**

Checks adapted from MHRA, Bed rails: management and safe use (GOV.UK, last updated 30 August 2023), sections 5 and 7. MHRA sets no fixed interval: it says the frequency of inspection should be set by local policy, the conditions of use and the manufacturer's instructions for use, and that records should be kept of inspections, repairs and maintenance. This form does not replace the bed occupant's risk assessment. Template from hovermarks.co.uk, last reviewed 5 November 2026. Not legal advice. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.