

ECERS-3 Space & Furnishings Checklist

The purpose of this checklist is to provide guidance in how to best support the learning and development of the children in your program in regard to space, furnishings, and safety practices in your program environment.

Indoor space				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
Adequate and adjustable lighting and temperature control				
Good ventilation; some natural lighting through windows or skylight				
Space is ample for children, adults, and furnishings				
Space is in good repair				
Space is reasonably clean and well-maintained				
Space for children is accessible to children and adults with disabilities				

Furnishings for care, play, and learning				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
There is enough shelving for toys and materials				
There are enough child size tables and chairs for the children (feet touching floor)				
Furniture is sturdy and in good repair				
Cots/mats stored for easy access				
Cubbies placed for easy use by parents, staff, and children				
Adaptive furniture permits inclusion of children with disabilities				

Room arrangement for play and learning				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
There are at least 5 different interest centers (art, reading, blocks, nature/science, dramatic play, manipulatives/fine motor)				
Centers are organized for independent use by children; labeled open shelves, labeled containers for toys w/pictures, uncluttered shelves, accessible play space near toys				
Areas for quiet and active play are separated				
Special "cozy area" with soft furnishings is accessible and protected from active play				
Other soft furnishings in addition to cozy area are accessible to children				
Arrangement of furnishings and equipment makes it possible for staff visual supervision				
Accessible storage space for additional materials				

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Space for privacy				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
There is more than one space set aside for one or two children to play, protected from intrusion by others (easels, sensory tables, child-sized couch in book area)				

Child-related display				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
The classroom display is more than 50% children's work				
Appropriate materials are displayed for the age of the children				
Many items displayed at child's eye level				
Pictures displayed show diversity				
Photographs of children in the group, their families, pets, and/or familiar faces displayed				
Some three-dimensional, child-created work displayed				

Space and equipment for gross motor play				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
Adequate space outdoors and some indoors for gross motor play				
Space is easily accessible to the children				
Space is organized so that different types of activities do not interfere with one another				
At least 2 types of play surfaces available				
Both stationary and portable gross motor equipment is available for use				
Equipment stimulates a variety of skills; balancing, climbing, ball play, steering, tumbling, jumping, throwing/catching/kicking, pedaling				
Gross motor equipment stimulates skills on different developmental levels				
There is enough equipment so that children have access without a long wait				
Gross motor equipment is in good repair				
Adaptations are made or special equipment is provided for children in group with disabilities				

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Safety practices (indoor)				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
Protective covers on electrical outlets; all electrical cords are kept out of reach of children				
Spills on floors are cleaned up immediately				
Medicines, cleaning materials, pesticides, aerosols, and substances labeled "keep out of reach of children" are locked away				
Bleach and other toxic solutions used only when children cannot inhale the spray				
Mats/rugs do not slide or present tripping hazards				

Safety practices (outdoor/gross motor play area)				
Items	Yes	No	Partial	Notes
Walkways and stairs are safe for the age and development of children				
Play equipment is in good repair, anchored, and has appropriate height				
Fall zones under play equipment have sufficient cushioning				
Play equipment poses no threat of head entrapment, finger entrapment, injury from pinch-points, or projections				
Arrangement of outdoor/gross motor play area is free of obstacles and allows for staff visual supervision				