

What Is Preventative Maintenance And Why Is It Important?

You know firsthand that if a scale is down, you're losing out on the opportunity to create revenue. Scales often play integral roles in business processes and should be kept operating at peak performance to ensure reliability, accuracy, and cost savings. Some industries have a period of higher scale usage and others are more linear, meaning each scale's maintenance should be treated uniquely. In addition, many scales have warranty requirements and seasonal issues that should be taken into account.



For any business that utilizes scales of any kind, preventative maintenance should be a routine part of operations. Without regular service and calibration, a scale could be incorrect or operating outside of regulation requirements. Scheduling routine preventative maintenance for your scales can provide peace of mind – not to mention cost savings. Let's explore why preventative maintenance is key, and when you should have your scales serviced:

Prevent costly downtime

To maintain productivity, your scale, whether a bench scale, floor scale, or specialty scale, must perform reliably for each measurement and downtime must be minimized. By servicing your scales, you can achieve a high return on your equipment investment over its lifetime while reducing downtime during off-hours or slower seasons. Schedule services according to the frequency of equipment use and process risks so that you can:

- Ensure reliable performance
- Maintain compliance with requirements
- Avoid unexpected equipment downtime
- Protect your budget

Maintain quality and accuracy

Preventive maintenance is key to your scale's accuracy and longevity. The quality and accuracy of scale performance are especially critical when your scale is used to mix ingredients or to create a product where precision is fundamental. Pre-planned, periodic maintenance provides you with complete trust that your equipment achieves:

- Consistent, accurate results
- Extended equipment life
- Safe and reliable operation
- The best performance possible



Increase profits with preventative maintenance

System Scale can provide any scale type with periodic, preventive maintenance, including activities required to ensure continuously accurate and reliable operations, such as:

- ✓ Visual inspection
- ✓ Thorough clean-out
- ✓ Data backup and storage
- ✓ Testing and adjustment
- ✓ Documenting equipment condition
- ✓ Improvement recommendations
- ✓ Calibrations as necessary
- ✓ Repairs and installation of new parts as necessary
- ✓ Placement of signed inspection sticker with date of service
- ✓ Post-inspection report

Preventative maintenance services

System Scale is ISO17025 accredited. We offer a wide range of calibrations and associated paperwork for scales as well as lab calibrations for other instrumentation. There are 4 tiers of service available, depending on scale requirements:

- **Standard Scale Check With Calibration Summary:** For scales where pinpoint accuracy isn't necessary and extensive documentation isn't required. This service includes a basic check over and weight check.
- **ISO Check With Certificate:** For certain scales where ISO documentation is required and the highest level of testing is necessary, this service ensures the most complete level of accuracy.
- **Custom Calibration Services:** For non "scale" testing including elevator capacity checks, rigging and strap testing, stage capacity testing, and more.
- **Lab:** For specialty non-scale equipment including mechanical, thermodynamic and electrical devices.

***System Scale ensures coverage of all Mettler Toledo Warranty Requirements.*





A weekly and monthly inspection checklist

While scheduling regular service is important, there are preventative measures you can take on your own. The below chart can serve as a guide to use on a weekly and monthly basis to keep your scales up to par:

BENCH TOP / FLOOR SCALE INSPECTION CHECKLIST	Weekly	Monthly
GENERAL		
Clean weighing pan or platform (wipe down or sweep off)	X	X
Clean weight display with clean cloth and mild cleaner (Windex)	X	X
Visually check scale for loose or broken items	X	X
Inspect Keyboard to make sure all buttons are operational	X	X
Check to make sure scale is level (use level bubble and adjust feet as necessary)	X	X
Check for debris around or under the scale platform	X	X
Check if scale is at ZERO and stays there after Zero button is pressed	X	X
Clean Scale with canned air or washdown with water (as required)	X	X
Inspect Load Cell Cable or Frayed or damaged sections		X
Tabletop scales - Make sure table is level and stable that scale rest on		X
Verify Operation of External Devices (scoreboard / printer)		X
WEIGHT CHECK		
Verify Zero		X
Take a known weight and check center of platform and 1/2 out to edge in a cross configuration		X
Check scale returns to zero after weight is applied		X
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE		
Remove pan on bench type scale and hand clean. Remove any debris under the platform		X
Lift up the deck of the floor scale and clean under entire scale		X
Verify scale is level after cleaning		X
Check, clean and lubricate all necessary parts		X
Replace any worn or broken legs or feet		X
Lubricate Printer (if applicable)		X
Replace Printer Ribbon (if applicable)		X

Do your scales need preventative maintenance?

Are your scales protected? Regardless of the brand of your scales or who you purchased them from, let System Scale know if we can be of assistance or answer any questions you may have about your scales. If you're interested in setting up a preventative maintenance schedule or if you would like a consultation about how to service your scale, contact us anytime.

Schedule Your Appointment: <http://www.system-scale.com/Schedule-Preventative-Maintenance> or call 800-467-6707.