

# Systematic examination – Checklist

## Routine checks

- Patient details: Name, date film was taken, age & sex, history
- Projection technique

## Heart

- Shape
- Size
- Calcifications

## Mediastinum

- Edges
- Width
- Position

## Lungs, hila & pleura

- Lung fields – equal transradiancy, no discrete lesions
- Horizontal and oblique fissures – correct positions
- Lung volume – hypo- or hyper-inflation
- Discrete or generalised shadows
- Lung apices
- Costophrenic angles
- Hila – position, contour, density

## Diaphragm

- Height of each hemidiaphragm
- Sub-diaphragmatic region – free air
- Abdominal pathology – dilated loops of bowel
- Clear, smooth margin

## Common blind spots

- Lung apices
- Extreme lung bases
- Behind 1st costochondral junctions
- Behind the heart shadow
- Mediastinum behind the sternum
- Thoracic inlet and trachea