

TRAILER INSTRUCTION SHEET

Safety Rules:

1. Load your trailer with 60% of the weight in the front half of the trailer and 40% in the back half. Secure the load to prevent shifting.
2. For trailers with brakes, the total weight of the load and trailer must not exceed the towing vehicle's curb weight.
3. The maximum weight of the load and trailer is 3,500 lbs for most single-axle trailers and 7,000 lbs for most tandem-(dual) axle trailers.
4. Utility trailers are not intended to haul dirt, rocks, sand, sod, brick, gravel, lumber, firewood, broken concrete, scrap iron, fuel, or chemicals.
5. Check the hitch installation, including safety chains, after loading and unloading the trailer. Do not disconnect the trailer from the towing vehicle.
6. If swaying occurs, reduce speed gradually - **DON'T HIT YOUR BRAKE PEDAL HARD!** Pull over and adjust your load with more weight toward the front.
7. If the combination travels off the paved roadway, hold the steering wheel firmly. Let off the gas pedal. **DO NOT** apply your brakes. **DO NOT** turn sharply. Slow down below 25 mph. Then gradually turn the steering wheel to get back on the roadway. Proceed with caution when entering traffic.
8. Drive **SLOW** (45 mph) and allow extra time and distance for braking, stopping, passing and changing lanes. Stay in the right-hand lane(s).
9. **ANTICIPATE STOPS!** Allow a 5 second gap between you and the vehicle in front of you.
10. **NEVER** allow passengers in any trailer and never load cargo on the outside of the trailer.
11. Use mirrors if your vision is obstructed by the trailer or load.

The guidelines, tips and instructions in this instruction sheet are common-sense suggestions designed to promote towing safety and efficiency. Compiled from literature of leading experts in the field, they are believed to be reliable, and are offered as suggestions and illustrations to deal principally with common practices and conditions encountered in the use of towing equipment. The guidelines are not intended to be all-inclusive, complete descriptions of safe practices, nor to supplant or replace other additional precautionary measures to cover usual or unusual conditions or situations where common sense might dictate something else. Accordingly, the American Rental Association, its member rental firms, and ARA Insurance Services and its agents disclaim all liability for and make no warranty or guarantee of the accuracy or applicability of these instructions in any situation.