

## Trailer Towing Pre-Trip Safety Inspection Checklist – Page 1

**Date:**

**Reviewer:**

Review the following checklist and indicate whether each item is satisfactory (SAT.), unsatisfactory (UNSAT.) while including applicable notes. All unsatisfactory issues must be properly addressed before the trailer can be towed.	SAT.	UNSAT.	NOTES LEGEND
<b>I. Tow Vehicle</b>			
1. The tow vehicle has enough power to safely tow the trailer load.			
2. The tow vehicle has received regular preventative maintenance work.			
3. The tow vehicle has adequate fuel, battery power, oil, and engine coolant.			
4. The tow vehicle tires are properly inflated and balanced, and do not show excessive wear or damage.			
5. The wheel fasteners (lug nuts) are present, tight, and free of rust.			
6. Wheel rims are free from damage.			
7. Tow vehicle is level when attached to the loaded trailer.			
8. All lights (dash lights, headlights, tail lights, clearance lights, brake lights, directional signals, hazard lights, high beams, reflectors) are in proper working order.			
9. All brakes are in proper working order.			
10. Side view mirrors provide an unobstructed rear view on both sides of the vehicle.			
<b>II. Hitching Apparatus</b>			
1. The receiver is properly mounted to the tow vehicle.			
2. The receiver, draw bar, hitch ball, coupler, sway control device, spring bars, safety chains, and power connection wiring are all functional and compatible with the tow vehicle and trailer.			
3. The power and brake control connections between the trailer and tow vehicle are compatible, provide enough slack for turning and are in good working order.			
4. The landing gear (trailer jack) is functional.			
5. The hitch ball and coupler are the same size. When attached, the ball is firmly seated in the coupler, and the latching mechanism is locked.			

## Trailer Towing Pre-Trip Safety Inspection Checklist – Page 2

**Date:**

**Reviewer:**

Review the following checklist and indicate whether each item is satisfactory (SAT.), unsatisfactory (UNSAT.) while including applicable notes. All unsatisfactory issues must be properly addressed before the trailer can be towed.	<b>SAT.</b>	<b>UNSAT.</b>	<b>NOTES LEGEND</b>
<b>II. Hitching Apparatus (continued)</b>			
6. The safety chains are securely attached to both the tow vehicle and trailer, crossing under the trailer tongue in an "X" pattern.			
7. The safety chains connect the trailer and tow vehicle, while providing enough slack for turning.			
8. The eyelets holding the safety chains all have their open-ended hooks facing the outside of the hitch connection.			
9. If using a fifth-wheel trailer hitch, the following equipment is in good working order: fifth-wheel plate, plate jaw and handle, hitch plate, pin and pin box, and side rails.			
<b>III. Trailer</b>			
1. The trailer frame is free of cracks, fractures, bends and other signs of weakness.			
2. All lights (tail lights, clearance lights, brake lights, directional signals, hazard lights, reflectors) are in proper working order.			
3. The trailer tires are properly inflated and balanced, and do not show excessive wear or damage.			
4. The trailer wheel fasteners (lug nuts) are present, tight, and free of rust.			
5. Trailer wheel rims are free from damage.			
6. Loaded trailer is level when attached to the tow vehicle.			
7. Running boards (if present) are in good condition.			
8. Winch (if present) is in working order.			

