

OHBA Safety Pages: Trailer Towing Safety

Before driving, make sure your vehicle maintenance and trailer maintenance are current. This is very important because towing puts additional stress on tow vehicles. Ensure pre-travel inspections are completed. Don't risk your life, the lives of everyone out on the road with you, or damage to your equipment because of an issue that could have been avoided. Don't risk it, inspect it!



- ✓ Check and correct tire pressure on the tow vehicle and trailer.
- ✓ Make sure the wheel lug nuts/bolts on the tow vehicle and trailer are tightened to the correct torque.
- ✓ Be sure the hitch, coupler, draw bar, and other equipment that connect the trailer and the tow vehicle are properly secured and adjusted.
- ✓ Verify the hitch ball and coupler or ball mount are of the same size; i.e. 1 7/8", 2", 2 5/8", etc.
- ✓ Check that the trailer safety chains are properly secured to the tow vehicle.
- ✓ Check that the wiring is properly connected— not touching the road, but loose enough to make turns without disconnecting or damaging the wires.
- ✓ Make sure all running lights, brake lights, turn signals, and hazard lights are working.
- ✓ Verify that the brakes on the tow vehicle and trailer (if equipped) are operating correctly.
- ✓ Check that all items are securely fastened on and in the trailer. Be sure the trailer jack, tongue support, and any attached stabilizers are raised and locked in place.
- ✓ Check load distribution to make sure the tow vehicle and trailer are properly balanced front to back and side to side.
- ✓ Adjust side and rear-view mirrors as needed to make sure you have good visibility.
- ✓ Check routes and restrictions on bridges and tunnels including clearance height of your load.



The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE

Topic: Trailer Towing Safety

Employer: _____ Project: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____

Number in crew: _____ Number attending: _____

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: _____

Supervisor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)