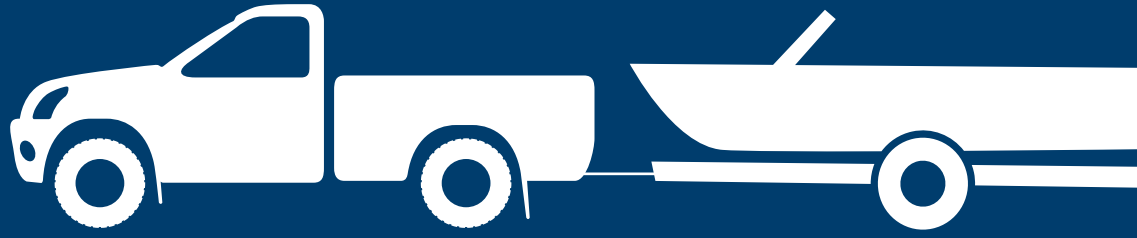


How to Trailer a Boat



Departure Checklist

Never tow your boat trailer until you've checked:

- Local and state requirements on towing
- Coupler, hitch and hitch ball are of the same size
- Coupler and safety chains are safely secured to hitch of tow vehicle
- All fasteners are properly tightened
- Boat is securely tied down to trailer (the winch line is not a tie down)
- Wheel lug nuts are properly tightened
- Wheel bearings are properly adjusted and maintained
- Trailer jack, tongue support, and any attached stabilizers are raised and locked in place
- Load is within maximum load-carrying capacity
- Tire pressure on the tow vehicle and trailer meets requirements
- Trailer lighting is working properly (brake lights, turn signals, hazard lights)
- Trailer brakes are properly adjusted and working (if trailer is so equipped)
- Side and rear-view mirrors for visibility
- Route availability and restrictions on bridges and tunnels

TIP:

Each state has its own towing rules. But, at minimum, trailers need to have working taillights and brake lights and should be registered with your state's Department of Motor Vehicles.

Source:

"Towing Your Trailer Safely." Towing Your Trailer Safely. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 May 2013. <<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/dl648/dl648pt12.htm>>.