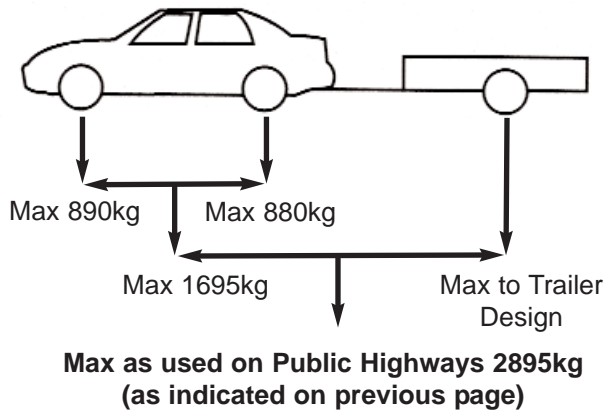


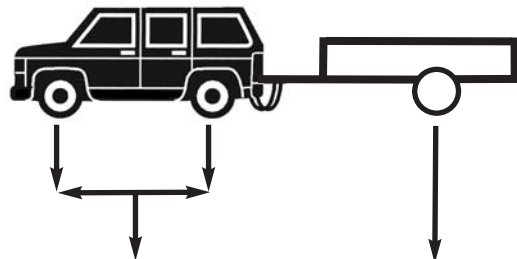
This is how the manufacturer's plate is interpreted for our example



Trailer Type

1. Trailer with braking system

Where the trailer has a braking system, it is recommended that the trailer and load does not exceed 80-85% of the weight of the vehicle.

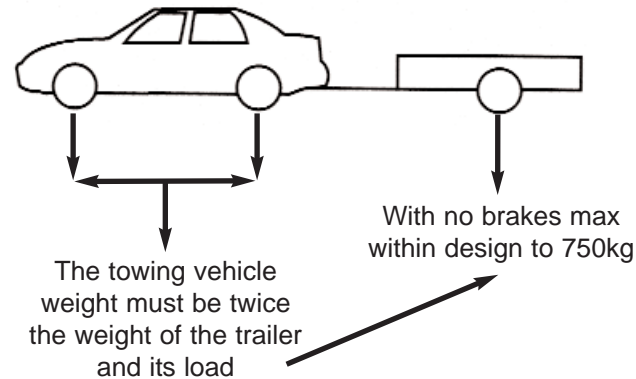


It is recommended that the trailer does not exceed 80% to 85% of this weight

With Dynamic Brakes (over-run brakes) with Max design up to 3500kg

2. Trailer with no braking system

Where the trailer does not have its own braking system the trailer and load should not be over 1/2 the kerbside weight of the motor vehicle it is being towed by to a maximum weight of 750kg



Road users should be aware of Regulation 100 (3) of The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, which state:

'No motor vehicle or trailer shall be used for any purpose for which it is unsuitable as to cause or be likely to cause danger or nuisance to any person in or on the vehicle or trailer or on a road'.

Remember, it is the driver who is responsible at all times to comply with the regulations when using a motor vehicle and trailer. Ignorance of the regulations is not a defence!



Quick Guide to Towing Small Trailers

This leaflet attempts to answer some of the questions the public ask about the use of trailers and the law covering the following subject:

- Driving Licences
- Driver Hours
- Weight

There is an independent publication supplied through the Indespension group, which goes into a lot of technical detail.

As a Government Agency we are unable to endorse the publication but it does contain information that will be of use and interest to members of the public requiring information about the law and use of trailers

The contact number is 01204 478 500

Driving Licence

Refer to DVLA INF30 - Driving Licensing requirements for towing trailers in Great Britain.

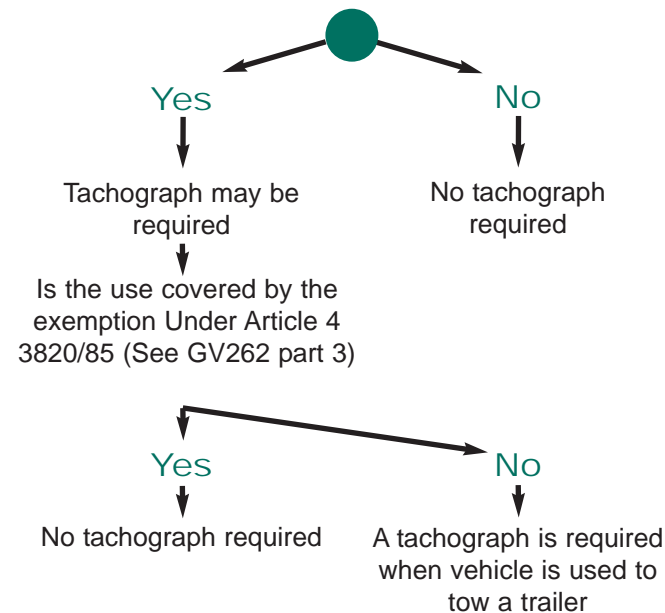
Available from all vehicle registration offices and main post offices.

Do I need a Tachograph?

If you are using the vehicle in connection with any trade or business, or are carrying goods for hire and reward you may need to fit and use a tachograph.

Department of Transport publication no. GV262, is a guide to Goods Vehicle Drivers Hours. This is a free publication available from any main Vehicle & Operator Services Agency Traffic Enforcement Office. It explains more fully when and how to use a tachograph.

Is the towing capacity over 3500kgs AND when added together the vehicle max weight and trailer max is over 3500kgs?



Weights

The vehicle manufacturer's plate will give you the following information about weights for your vehicle:

(If no plate is fitted refer to drivers handbook)

Example:

Manufacturer's name
Chassis Number

GVW/GVM 1695
GTW/GTM 2895
A+LE 1-0890
A+LE 2-0880

The first weight (1695) is the maximum weight of the vehicle on its own. The second weight (2895) is the maximum weight for the vehicle and any trailer that is attached. The third weight (890) is the maximum for the front axle of the vehicle and the final weight (880) is the maximum weight for the rear axle of the vehicle.

These weights must not be exceeded on public roads. Do not forget these weights include all passengers, other loads, and fuel.

The trailer may also display similar information showing the capacity of the axles and the maximum weight it can carry.