

Trailer Inspection Checklist: Commercial Semi, Pup, or Full Trailer

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Trailer and inspector	
DATE	TIME
LOCATION	INSPECTOR / DRIVER NAME
ROLE	CARRIER NAME
USDOT NUMBER	TRAILER NUMBER
VIN	LICENSE PLATE
TRAILER TYPE	COUPLED TO A POWER UNIT
TRACTOR / TOWING UNIT (IF COUPLED)	HUB MILES (IF EQUIPPED)

- ☐ Last DVIR reviewed (49 CFR 396.13). Sign the prior report if required.
- ☐ If the last report listed defects, repairs were certified or the defects were certified unnecessary.

Coupling hardware (trailer)				
Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Kingpin	☐	☐	☐	
Apron / upper coupler plate	☐	☐	☐	
Upper coupler fasteners	☐	☐	☐	
Coupled lock (if hooked)	☐	☐	☐	
Gladhands on the trailer	☐	☐	☐	
7-way receptacle on the trailer	☐	☐	☐	
Trailer air and electric lines	☐	☐	☐	
Tow-bar / drawbar (full trailer or pup)	☐	☐	☐	
Safety chains or cables (full trailer)	☐	☐	☐	
Converter dolly (if pup or double)	☐	☐	☐	
Intermodal chassis coupling (if IME)	☐	☐	☐	

Landing gear

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Landing-gear position	☐	☐	☐	_____
Crank handle	☐	☐	☐	_____
Legs, braces, and pads	☐	☐	☐	_____
Landing-gear parts complete	☐	☐	☐	_____
Power landing gear (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Landing-gear clearance (if coupled)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Lights, conspicuity, and ABS lamp

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Tail lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Stop lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear turn signals	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear 4-way flashers	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear identification lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear clearance lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Front clearance lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Front side markers and reflectors	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear side markers and reflectors	☐	☐	☐	_____
Intermediate side markers (if over 30 ft)	☐	☐	☐	_____
License plate lamp	☐	☐	☐	_____
Reflex reflectors (mount and condition)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Conspicuity tape (sides)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Conspicuity tape (rear)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Lamps and tape not obscured	☐	☐	☐	_____
Trailer ABS malfunction lamp	☐	☐	☐	_____

Brakes

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Trailer brake connections	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake tubing and hoses	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake chambers	☐	☐	☐	_____
Slack adjusters (same length)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Pushrod stroke (if visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Linings or pads (if visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Drums or rotors (if visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brakes operative	☐	☐	☐	_____
Spring / parking brakes	☐	☐	☐	_____
Lift-axle brakes (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Grease or oil on brakes	☐	☐	☐	_____
ABS modulator and wiring (if visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Suspension and axles

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Axle positioning parts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Adjustable axle / slider pins	☐	☐	☐	_____
Leaf springs	☐	☐	☐	_____
Air springs (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Air-suspension leakage	☐	☐	☐	_____
Air-suspension regulator	☐	☐	☐	_____
Shock absorbers (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
U-bolts and mounts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Trailer sitting level	☐	☐	☐	_____
Air-suspension exhaust controls	☐	☐	☐	_____

Tires and wheels

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Inflation (gauge)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Tire condition	☐	☐	☐	_____
Tread depth	☐	☐	☐	_____
Dual match	☐	☐	☐	_____
Load rating	☐	☐	☐	_____
Speed-restricted tires (if labeled)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Valve stems and caps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheels and rims	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheel fasteners	☐	☐	☐	_____

Bolt holes	☐	☐	☐	_____
Inner dual (as visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Body, doors, floor, and underride

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Frame and crossmembers	☐	☐	☐	_____
Floor	☐	☐	☐	_____
Walls and roof	☐	☐	☐	_____
Doors, hinges, and locks	☐	☐	☐	_____
Door seals (van or reefer)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear impact guard present	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear impact guard geometry (1998+)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rear-end protection (pre-1998 body rule)	☐	☐	☐	_____
VIN, plate, and registration (if visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Markings (if required and visible)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Mud flaps / splash guards	☐	☐	☐	_____
Reefer unit and fuel tank (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Cargo securement points

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Winches, tracks, and D-rings	☐	☐	☐	_____
Straps, chains, and binders on the trailer	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cargo distribution (if loaded)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Doors, tarps, tailgate, spare	☐	☐	☐	_____
Header board / bulkhead	☐	☐	☐	_____
Sealed or impracticable cargo	☐	☐	☐	_____
Intermodal locks and bolsters (if IME)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cargo recheck duty (driver)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Defects and sign-off

DEFECTS FOUND

ACTION TAKEN

DRIVER / INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

TIME SIGNED

REPAIR CERT DATE

☐ Trailer is in safe operating condition for this trip

MECHANIC / CARRIER SIGNATURE (IF REPAIRS)

OTHER COMMENTS

Reference only. Verify against the vehicle OEM procedure and applicable regulations.