

Drive the 5

Distracted free

Rested and alert

Impairment free

Vehicle maintained

Environment aware

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Pulling a trailer with a pick-up truck

Various types of trailers can further expand the functionality of pick-up trucks. Follow these key points to prepare for the road and navigating traffic.

1 Know your trailer:

- Understand the weight, dimensions, and handling characteristics.
- Remember different hitches perform differently when towed.
- Leave extra stopping distance for trailers without brakes (e.g., agricultural trailers).

2 Load your trailer correctly:

- Know your gross trailer weight, hitch rating, and tongue weight.
- Place 60% of the weight of the load in front of the axles.
- Trailers with too much weight toward the rear axles can become uncontrollable.

3 Maintain a safe following distance:

- Follow the 4 second rule.
- Liquid loads can surge forward—leave more space.
- Avoid sudden braking by increasing following distance.

4 Take corners slowly:

- Reduce speed—especially around sharp corners.
- Trailers have a wider turning radius.
- Be cautious to avoid hitting curbs or other obstacles.

5 Practice defensive driving techniques:

- Apply defensive driving principles while towing.
- Stay alert to potential risks, anticipate hazards, and minimize unnecessary lane changes.
- If your trailer starts to sway, steer straight and take your foot off the gas pedal until the trailer comes under control.