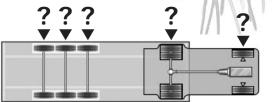
How to Weigh Your TRAVEL TRAILER or RV



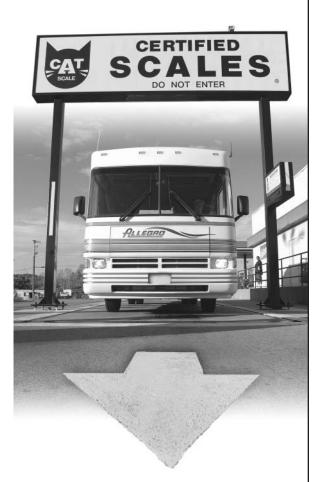
GETTING STARTED

You must know the weight on each axle end of your RV or travel trailer to avoid overloading the vehicle, tires or axles. Overloading is unsafe, wastes fuel and can cause tires to fail and vehicle components

(including tires) to wear out prematurely.



In order to be sure it is not overloaded, you must weigh the vehicle, fully loaded.



Look for scales at moving and storage companies, farm suppliers, gravel pits, recycling companies or truckstops.

Where to **FIND SCALES**

You should be able to find certified scales by looking in your Yellow Pages for moving and storage companies, farm suppliers, gravel pits, recycling companies or commercial truck stops.

Be sure to call in advance to determine whether the facility offers public weighing services, their hours of operation and any fees that might be involved.

HOW TO Use Scales

There are several different kinds of scales, including single platforms, segmented platforms (that can make several measurements at the same time) and single axle scales.

Ask the scale operators for help. Show them this booklet, and explain that you need to know the weight on each axle end – with the vehicle as level as possible.

Regardless of scale type, you must be able to determine the overall weight, the right- and left-side weights for each axle, and the weight on each individual axle – from front to rear.

Weigh **EVERYTHING**

For accurate weights, you must weigh the vehicle with all of your passengers, food, clothing, fuel, water, propane and supplies. Any towed vehicle (car/pickup, boat or trailer) or item loaded onto the vehicle (dirt bike, motorcycle, etc.) must be included in the weighing.

Be **PREPARED**

It may take half an hour or more to weigh your vehicle. Be sure to take a copy of this booklet with you, so you will have a place to record all the weights you'll need.

And, bear in mind that depending on what you learn, it may be necessary to remove or redistribute part of the load, then weigh the vehicle again.

HOW MUCH should it weigh?

The correct weights for your vehicle will appear on a vehicle placard like those pictured here. Notice that the placard should tell you the Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) for each axle, the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) for the whole vehicle, along with information about the correct tire and rim sizes and recommended cold tire inflation pressures.

If you exceed the GVWR, you must remove part of the load until you are within the legal limits.

How do we know the CORRECT AXLE END LOADS?

The maximum load on each axle end is half the GAWR for that axle. You must not exceed the total GAWR for any axle, or the maximum for any axle end.

Even if the vehicle as a whole does not exceed the GVWR, a given axle end might be overloaded. In that case, you must redistribute the load.

Every vehicle must have placards like these, detailing maximum loads, tire and wheel sizes and recommended cold inflation pressures.

See page 4 of

R for Light Trucks, RVs, Mini-buses and Ambulances for more information.

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Choosing Correct TIRE INFLATION PRESSURE

MEASURE the Load

If an axle end has dual tires, the load on each tire is half the load on the axle end. Never exceed the maximum tire load rating that is molded into the tire's sidewall (along with the inflation pressure

for that load). Never exceed maximum load or inflation pressure rating of your wheels.

Find the **RECOMMENDED** Inflation Pressure

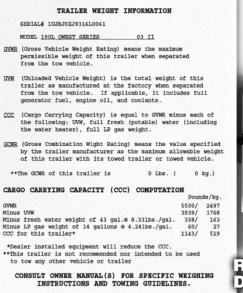
Always determine correct tire inflation pressure based on actual loads on the tires. Use the tiremakers' recommendations (which you will find in load and inflation tables). Never use inflation pressures lower than those printed on the vehicle placard.

All tires on both ends of an axle must have **the same inflation pressure**. If the load on each axle end is so different that different inflation pressures are recommended, use the higher pressure on both ends – or – redistribute load so that the same inflation pressure is recommended for both axle ends.



1-800-543-7522 www.trucktires.com www.tiresafety.com

(Required by law on all vehicles.)

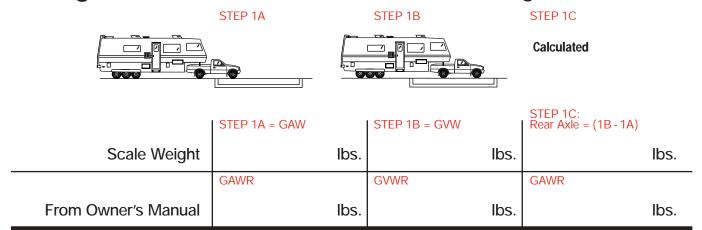


(Added by Recreational Vehicle Industry Association [RVIA] member manufacturers. Supersedes Federal Dataplate.)

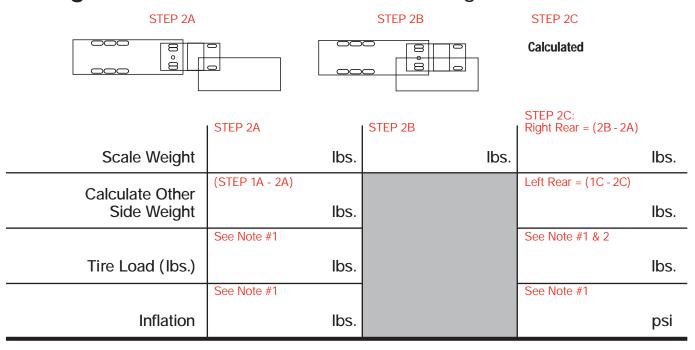


Pulling Vehicle & Travel Trailer

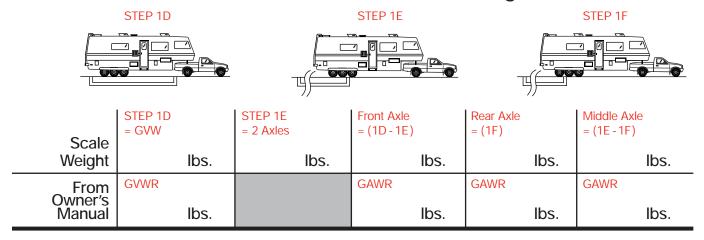
Pulling Vehicle: Individual Axle & Gross Vehicle Weights



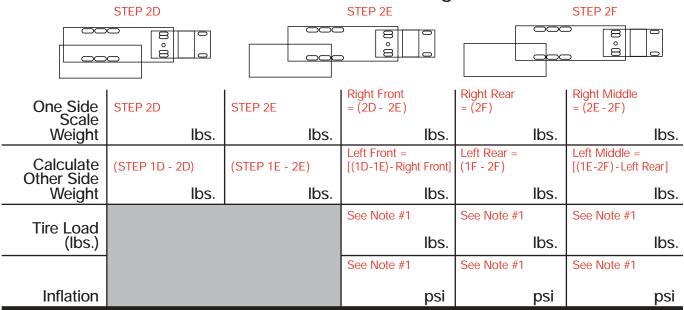
Pulling Vehicle: Individual Wheel Position Weights



Travel Trailer: Individual Axle & Gross Vehicle Weights

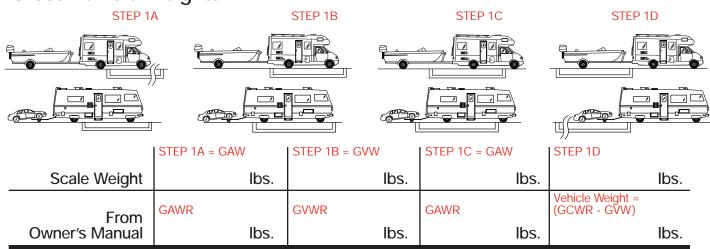


Travel Trailer: Individual Wheel Position Weights

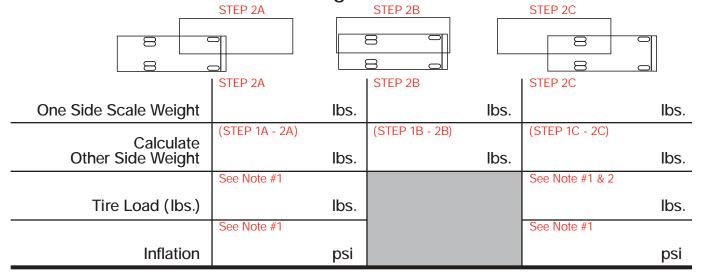


RV: Individual Axle & Gross Vehicle Weights

Single Axle Recreational Vehicle

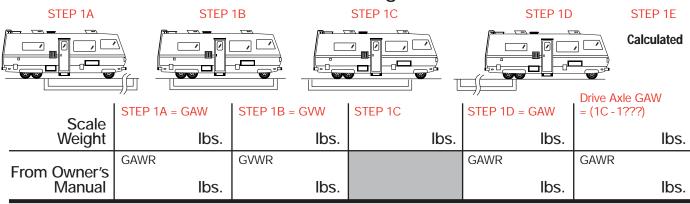


RV: Individual Wheel Position Weights



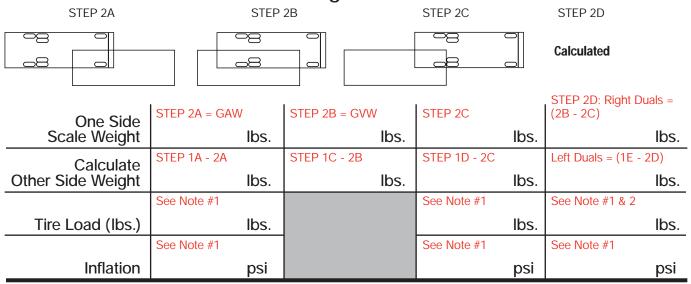
Tandem Axle Recreational Vehicle

RV: Individual Axle & Gross Vehicle Weights



NOTE: Should your tandem axle recreational vehicle be pulling a travel trailer, please see "Weighing Your Single Axle Recreational Vehicle," STEP 1D page 3.

RV: Individual Wheel Position Weights



CAUTION

Individual wheel position weights MUST NOT exceed the maximum tire load capacity. Maximum tire load capacity can only be achieved utilizing the maximum allowable psi as listed on the sidewall of the tire.

For more information/additional assistance, contact your tire dealer.

¹ From the tire manufacturer's load and inflation tables or the sidewall of the tires mounted on the vehicle.

² If vehicle has duals, read dual capacity from tire and multiply by 2 (two) to obtain dual assembly load carrying capacity.



At All Times MAINTAIN CORRECT INFLATION

Correct tire inflation is critical to safety, handling, performance, fuel economy and tire life. Always set tire inflation pressures $\underline{\text{cold}}$ – using a gauge (never a "tire billy" or hammer) – after the vehicle has been parked for 3 to 4 hours, and before it has been driven a mile.

Check and adjust tire inflation every travel day, and **get immediate professional help if you find any tire 20 percent or more underinflated**.

Consult your tire dealer if you have questions.

For more information

Recreational Vehicle Safety Education Foundation (RVSEF)

RV Safety Education Foundation, Inc.

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