



CLEARANCES

REALIZE YOUR SIZE

KNOW THE DIMENSIONS OF YOUR LOAD AND LOOK FOR WEIGHT, HEIGHT, WIDTH and LENGTH RESTRICTION SIGNS:

UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE WEIGHT, HEIGHT, WIDTH and LENGTH LIMITS PLAN YOUR ROUTE ACCORDINGLY:

CHECK BRIDGES: look for signs, lights, warnings, check DOT website for bridge information or your atlas

CHECK OVERPASSES: look for signs, lights, warnings, check DOT website for bridge information or your atlas

KNOW WHEN YOU NEED A PERMIT AND GET A STATE PERMIT: Visit state permitting websites or contact by phone

THERE ARE FEDERAL AND STATE EXEMPTIONS FOR CARGO: Know the exemptions if they apply to logging or agriculture (if logging falls under agriculture exemptions in your state)

PLAN AHEAD

MAKE TIME TO PLAN: Check your route before heading out. Check new routes when routes need to be changed due to bridge repair or new bridge weight limits.

KNOW THE FMCSA & STATE REGULATION CLEARANCE LAWS: Knowing the laws for clearances in terms of height, weight and length can prevent accidents and hefty fines.

USE TOOLS TO PLAN: GPS, WAZE & The Motor Carriers Road Atlas

THE MOTOR CARRIER ATLAS IS A VALUABLE TOOL: Researching your trip can ensure your trip goes smoothly. For example, Federal Standards for commercial vehicle maximum weights on the Interstate Highway System are as follows: Single Axle – 20,000 lbs.; Tandem Axle – 34,000 lbs.; GVW – 80,000 lbs.

LEGAL HEIGHT LIMITS

LOG TRUCK STRIKES BRIDGE VIDEO: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOO_TuYr2X0

CHECK YOUR ROUTES HEIGHT LIMITS: There is no Federal vehicle height requirement for CMVs. Thus, States may set their own height restrictions. Most height limits range from 13 feet, 6 inches (4.11 meters) to 14 feet (4.27 meters), with exceptions granted for lower clearance on roads.

CHECK BRIDGES AND OVERPASS HEIGHT LIMITS ON YOUR ROUTES:

MEASURE YOUR LOAD: Accurately determine the height above ground level for the highest point of the load.

THE PERMIT PROCESS: After determining that a load exceeds the legal height limit is to apply for an oversize permit with the states involved. The permit process may require a route survey that includes the measurement of any overhead obstacles-bridges, overpasses, signs, utility lines, etc., along the proposed route. Over height loads require the same safety equipment as other oversize loads, including an "OVERSIZE LOAD" banner on the truck and any escort vehicles.



WIDTH LIMITS

FEDERAL REGULATIONS: Federal Size Regulations for Commercial Motor Vehicles, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration - The Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1976 increased the allowable width for buses to 102 inches (2.6 meters). The Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) of 1982 extended the same width requirement of 102 inches to commercial trucks. At the same time, the STAA expanded the highway network on which the Federal width provision applied from the Interstate to the National Network (NN) of highways.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Team Safe Trucking's mission is to reduce accidents through enhanced driver training and effective fleet management and to recruit new, safety-focused drivers to deliver a sustainable and profitable supply chain.



WEIGHT EXEMPTIONS

WEIGHT LIMITS WILL VARY STATE TO STATE: check your state’s weight limits and other state laws you may be driving through with your load.

SEASONAL WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS: in the Northeast, and in other areas of the United States there may be changes to weight limits during different seasons

BRIDGE AND OVERPASS WEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTIONS: it is important to check routes prior to creating new routes, to be sure the route you are choosing, check bridges and overpasses for weight limit signs prior to using that route.

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF INTERSTATE AND DEFENSE HIGHWAYS:

Where to find them online: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-23/chapter-I/subchapter-G/part-658/section-658.17>



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STATE HEIGHT LIMITS: FMCSA State weight and dimensions website click on your state to learn the requirements

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/international-programs/canada/weights-and-dimensions>

BRIDGES AND OTHER STRUCTURES MAY BE BELOW STATE HEIGHTS: State’s DOT websites have this information for your state.

TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL TYPES OF LOADS WHEN PLANNING ROUTES: Moving low-boys, logging equipment and logs

CONSIDER LOGGING ROADS, LANDINGS AND POWERLINES: The standard height of power lines depends entirely upon the city and state they're in and the types of power lines on the pole. Despite recommended minimum ground clearance levels starting at 12 feet, industry standards now lean toward 35 feet or higher.

TAIL SWING

FEDERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING THE LENGTH OF YOUR LOAD:

https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/publications/size_regs_final_rpt/index.htm#length

CHECK YOUR STATE DOT REGULATIONS THAT RELATE TO THE LENGTH OF YOUR LOAD: each state has a handbook/ websites

COMPILATION OF EXISTING STATE TRUCK SIZE AND WEIGHT LIMIT LAWS AND THOSE WITH EXEMPTIONS:

https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/policy/rpt_congress/truck_sw_laws/app_a.htm

TAILSWING HAZARD: Long logs extend beyond the rear axle of the log trailer. When the log truck takes a left or right hand turn the logs swing out – tail swing. If the driver is not careful the tail swing can create a hazard for oncoming traffic but traffic in adjoining lane when making a right-hand turn. If the logs cover up taillights and turn signals traffic is unable to know when you are slowing down or turning.

LEFT TURN PROCEDURES:

Step 1: Turn on your turn signal and check all mirrors for traffic surrounding the truck and proceed to the far-left lane.

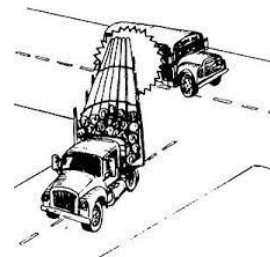
Step 2: Slow to 10 mph or less.

Step 3: Put your hands in the correct turning position & keep your wheels straight.

Step 4: Bring the front of the truck to the center of the intersection before you start the turn.

Step 5: As you begin to turn, check your right-side mirror for tail swing.

Step 6: Watch for problem objects and complete your turn.



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