**Notes to United States Towing and RV Road Laws**

1 – 38 feet for a single-axle fifth wheel travel trailer; 40 feet for 2- or more axle fifth wheel travel trailer
2 – Excludes energy absorbing bumpers
3 – Excludes mirrors
4 – Excluding bumpers; bumpers up to 6 inches in Minnesota; bumpers up to 12 inches in Missouri
5 – Excluding safety equipment
6 – 45 feet on Interstates
7 – Excluding appurtenances
8 – Excluding aerodynamic devices
9 – Excluding energy conservation devices
10 – Excluding approved length exclusion devices
11 – Excluding carrying devices
12 – Excluding loading equipment; loading equipment
13 – Excluding compressors and fuel saving equipment on the front
14 – N/A
15 – 56 feet for boat transporters
16 – Excluding carrying devices necessary for safe and efficient operation
17 – 45 feet for travel trailers
18 – 28 feet as a double combination
19 – Excluding stake pockets, air deflectors and refrigeration units
20 – Up to 75 feet in certain circumstances
21 – Excluding extension devices used for loading beyond the front or rear ends, in use for combination for transporting automobiles and boats
22 – Excluding the transportation of boats under 4,000 lbs.
23 – 65 feet for an RV towing a vehicle
24 – Excluding boat transporters
25 – 65 feet for travel trailers and to transport boats
26 – 70 feet if an RV combination
27 – 65 feet with a camping trailer, fifth wheel trailer, or park trailer
28 – Excluding steps and handholds for entry
29 – 3 for commercial vehicles, 2 for non-commercial vehicles
30 – 14 feet on designated roads; 14.5 feet in Colorado on designated roads
31 – 14 feet for RVs
32 – Excluding equipment up to 3 inches
33 – Excluding turn signals
34 – Excluding handholds
35 – Excluding splash and spray suppressant devices
36 – Excluding load-induced tire bulge; up to 3 inches in Kansas
37 – Excluding retractable RV awnings; up to 8 inches in Oklahoma; up to 6 inches in Tennessee
38 – Excluding AC power outlets and exhaust fans
39 – Excluding appurtenances up to width of rearview mirrors
40 – Excluding RV appurtenances; up to 6 inches in California and Colorado
41 – Excluding appurtenances up to 6 inches

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**Notes to Canadian Towing and RV Road Laws**

1 – Excluding auxiliary up to 30cm and other special equipment
2 – Total maximum combined length of 21m; ball hitch permitted on fifth wheel only
3 – Excluding mirrors up to 30cm and auxiliary equipment up to 100cm
4 – Excludes side mirrors, lights, reflectors, and load securing devices protruding less than 15cm
5 – Required if trailer exceeds 50% of tow vehicle weight in BC and YTL laden
6 – Gross weight requiring brakes
7 – See provincial regulations
8 – Seats must be equipped with safety belts
9 – Must have access to drive compartment

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**Notes to US Towing and RV Road Laws**

1 – 38 feet for a single-axle fifth wheel travel trailer; 40 feet for 2- or more axle fifth wheel travel trailer
2 – Excludes energy absorbing bumpers
3 – Excludes mirrors
4 – Excluding bumpers; bumpers up to 6 inches in Minnesota; bumpers up to 12 inches in Missouri
5 – Excluding safety equipment
6 – 45 feet on Interstates
7 – Excluding appurtenances
8 – Excluding aerodynamic devices
9 – Excluding energy conservation devices
10 – Excluding approved length exclusion devices
11 – Excluding carrying devices
12 – Excluding loading equipment; loading equipment
13 – Excluding compressors and fuel saving equipment on the front
14 – N/A
15 – 56 feet for boat transporters
16 – Excluding carrying devices necessary for safe and efficient operation
17 – 45 feet for travel trailers
18 – 28 feet as a double combination
19 – Excluding stake pockets, air deflectors and refrigeration units
20 – Up to 75 feet in certain circumstances
21 – Excluding extension devices used for loading beyond the front or rear ends, in use for combination for transporting automobiles and boats
22 – Excluding the transportation of boats under 4,000 lbs.
23 – 65 feet for an RV towing a vehicle
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25 – 65 feet for travel trailers and to transport boats
26 – 70 feet if an RV combination
27 – 65 feet with a camping trailer, fifth wheel trailer, or park trailer
28 – Excluding steps and handholds for entry
29 – 3 for commercial vehicles, 2 for non-commercial vehicles
30 – 14 feet on designated roads; 14.5 feet in Colorado on designated roads
31 – 14 feet for RVs
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**Driving With a Trailer**

Do not drive an unstable tow vehicle/trailer combination.

A swaying trailer is both tiring and hazardous.

High speed and downhill travel are the two main causes of instability on the road. To minimize instability:

- Always obey the speed limit for towed vehicles.
- Anticipate downhill grades. Slow up before starting the descent and use a lower gear to keep from overworking the brakes.
- Use a lower gear on uphill pulls as well to get more power at less cost to your tow vehicle.
- On long grades, use the climbing lane if the road has one or pull over when the opportunity permits to let faster traffic pass.

**Stopping**

A tow vehicle/trailer combination is heavier and longer than a vehicle alone and thus requires a greater stopping distance in the city and on the open road.

**Passing**

Passing with a tow vehicle/trailer combination also requires more time and distance. Note that air suction, sometimes created when a vehicle overtakes another, can cause both to lurch unexpectedly.

**Turning**

When turning corners or rounding curves, the trailer wheels do not follow the same track as the tow vehicle's wheels. They travel considerably closer to the inside of the curve. To compensate, and to avoid running over curbs or off pavement, (a) start the turn farther to the outside of the curve or intersection and (b) farther along into the curve or intersection. Proceed deliberately and patiently.

**Backing Up**

Before your trip, practice backing up with the trailer as it is very different from backing up a car. Place your hand at the bottom of the steering wheel, then move your hand in the same direction you want the trailer to go. Move your hand left to move the trailer left. Move your hand right to move the trailer right. If you jackknife the trailer, pull forward, straighten out, and try again.

**Restrictions**

Restrictions and prohibitions exist on the transportation of liquefied petroleum in tunnels and some bridges in several states including: Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Texas and Virginia.

Before beginning your trip, contact your AAA/CAA club for a routing that offers the most favorable terrain and road conditions for trailer travel.

AAA has made every effort to ensure the accuracy in the Towing and RV Road Chart is accurate. We strongly recommend that if you plan on traveling through any of the jurisdictions listed, you contact the appropriate state or provincial police, DMV, or other roadway authority to verify towing restrictions and regulations.

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**Towing and RV Road Laws**

Refer to “Notes” section for footnote information