



The operator of a heavy vehicle is responsible for ensuring that each vehicle is roadworthy. A daily check is a quick visual inspection that can be undertaken on a heavy vehicle prior to leaving the yard, depot or rest area.

This guide lists some of the items and areas that may be covered in a daily check of a heavy vehicle and can be expanded on and tailored to suit an operator's business. Additional items and areas to check can be obtained from the National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual which contains a full list of components and their inspection criteria [www.nhvr.gov.au/nhvim](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/nhvim).

## Brakes

- Brake failure indicators are operational
- Pressure/vacuum gauges are operational
- Air tank drain valves are operational

### Examples of faults:

- » Pressure/vacuum gauge indicator shows a failure
- » Pressure, vacuum or low level warning devices or gauges are not operating
- » Air reservoir drain valves are not operational.

## Couplings

- Fifth wheel/ballrace and associated mountings are secure
- Towbar, drawbar and couplings are securely mounted
- Trailer coupling is secure (if applicable)
- Ensure kingpin is correctly engaged in fifth wheel jaws
- Ensure all air-lines, electrical connectors and any ABS/EBS connectors are correctly attached to trailer (if applicable)

### Examples of faults:

- » The fifth wheel pivot bracket pin/s or bushes are missing or insecure
- » Any towing attachment, any mounting bolts, fasteners or weld beads are loose, cracked, broken or extensively corroded
- » The towbar is not securely mounted or is bent or cracked.

★ **TIP:** If operating in a combination, if possible, perform a tug test to ensure your combination is securely coupled.



## Wheels, Tyres and Hubs

- Tyres are correctly inflated
- Condition and depth of the tyre tread
- Wheels are secure

### Examples of faults:

- » A tyre does not have at least 1.5mm tread depth in a continuous band which runs around the whole circumference of the tyre and extends across at least 75% of the width of the tyre
- » A tyre (including sidewalls) has deep cuts, chunking, bumps, bulges, exposed cords or other signs of carcass failure
- » Dual tyres contact each other
- » Any wheel has missing, cracked or broken wheel nuts, studs or bolts
- » Hub seals are leaking.

★ **TIP:** If fitted, wheel nut indicators are a quick way to detect wheel nuts which are not properly fastened.

## Structure and Body Condition

- Panels and readily visible structures are secure
- Horn is operational

### Examples of faults:

- » Any panels, structures, chassis or sub-frame have visible signs of advanced rust or is cracked, distorted, sagging, broken or loose
- » The horn is not operational, or is not a single tone, or is not loud enough to warn other road users.

## Lights and Reflectors

- Lights, including the clearance lights are operational
- Reflectors and lenses are present and in good condition (not faded, broken or damaged)

### Examples of faults:

- » The headlights, direction indicator lights, brake lights, tail lights, reversing lights or clearance lights are damaged or not operational
- » For an LED type light more than 30% of the individual LEDs do not function. (For examples, if a lamp has 10 LEDs, at least 7 must be working).

## Mirrors

- Mirrors are present, in good condition, secure and appropriately adjusted

### Examples of faults:

- » Any reflective surface of a rear view mirror has a missing section, is cracked, is deteriorated reducing the view to the rear of the vehicle or is obscured.

## Windscreens and Windows

- Windows are operational
- Wipers and windscreen washers are functioning to ensure a clear forward vision

### Examples of faults:

- » The primary vision area (the area of the windscreen which is swept by the windscreen wipers) must not be damaged (such as scoring, sandblasting or severe discolouration) so that it interferes with the driver's view
- » The primary vision area must be free from any bulls-eye or star fractures that exceeds 16mm in diameter, or either of the following:
  - hairline crack up to 30mm long
  - a crack from the edge of the windscreen up to 75mm long.

## Engine, Driveline and Exhaust

- Fluid leaking (oil, fuel, water, refrigerant/coolant, hydraulic fluid, brake fluid or other) from the vehicle (excluding condensation from air conditioning or the refrigeration system)
- After starting the vehicle ensure no engine or drivetrain warning lights remain illuminated on the instrument panel

### Examples of faults:

- » Oil leaks from the engine, gearbox, differential, brake system, power steering or any joint or seal on to:
  - brake friction surfaces
  - the exhaust system
  - the road surface.

This list is a visual check and serves as a guide only. It may be used as a basis for operator checks and should be adapted for each operator's individual circumstance. It does not replace a full safety inspection.

Please note: While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the content of this fact sheet, it should not be relied upon as legal advice.

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