

Information on TRAILERS

Registration:

Caravans and camping trailers have to be registered. Trailers for transport of goods or people have to be registered if GVW is over 750 kg. Trailers to be towed by cars on belts or by tractors, which mainly will be used off-roads, do not have to be registered. These rules are independent of trailer model year.

Lamps and reflectors:

All trailers shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors (all reflectors shall be with e-, E- or DOT-marking):

Parking l. (rear): Rear-facing red, two at the back (max 40 cm from outer edge, max 50 cm from rear end, and the height shall be between 35 and 150 cm (max 210 cm if necessary due to vehicle shape).

Parking l. (front): Front-facing white if trailer width is over 160 cm (max 15 cm from outer edge, height shall be between 35 and 150 cm (max 210 cm if necessary due to vehicle shape). Lights on trailers from N-America may be orange.

Brake l.: Rear-facing red, two at the back (height shall be between 35 and 150 cm (max 210 cm due to vehicle shape)).

Indicator l.: Rear-facing orange, two at the back (max 40 cm from outer edge, height shall be between 35 and 150 cm (max 210 cm due to trailer shape)). Lights on trailers from N-America may be red.

Width l.: Two at the front and two at the back, if trailer width is more than 230 cm (positioned as high up as possible and max 40 cm from outer edge). Front- and rear-facing lights may be built into one lamp if dispersion rules are fulfilled.

Side l.: Yellow or orange on the side if trailer length is over 6 m (max 3 m from front end (towing unit included), max 1 m from rear end, max 3 m in between, and height shall be between 25 and 90 cm (max 150 cm if necessary due to trailer shape)). On the center third of the trailer length shall be at least one lamp. The rearmost lamp may be red on trailers from N-America.

Number plate l.: White to illuminate the registration plate.

Rear fog l.: Valid for trailers registered after 01.01 1999: One or two red lights at the back (if one, it shall be on the left side). Height between 25 and 100 cm and at least 10 cm from the brake light.

Reflectors, rear: Triangular red, two at the back (with one corner up, max 40 cm from outer edge and height shall be between 25 and 90 cm).

Reflectors, front: White, two at the front, circular or four-sided (max 15 cm from outer edge and height shall be between 25 and 90 cm (max 150 if necessary due to trailer shape)).

Reflectors, side: Yellow on the side, circular or four-sided (same positioning rules as for the side lights, although trailers shorter than 6 m do not have to be equipped with lamp on the center third).

Towing equipment:

Cars shall be equipped with registered towing equipment. Safety chain shall be used between the car and the trailer if the trailer is not equipped with an emergency brake (trailers with GVW over 1500 kg shall be equipped with an emergency brake).

Maximum weight:

The main rule is that the GVW of a trailer that has no brakes shall not be more than 50% of the towing vehicle's own weight. Sometimes, manufacturers of towing vehicles decide on higher trailer weight, and if so, it shall be registered for the vehicle (in the registration certificate).

Brakes:

Trailers with GVW ranging from 750 to 3500 kg shall be equipped with service brakes (for example electric or inertia brakes), and a parking brake. The controller for electric brakes must be on the trailer. Trailers with GVW of more than 3500 kg shall be equipped with service brakes of the interconnected type, and a parking brake.

Maximum width:

The width of trailers with GVW under 3500 kg shall not be more than 250 cm, the width of others may be 255 cm. The trailer shall not be wider than the towing vehicle by more than 30 cm on each side.