

Safe load securing checklist

Stay safe and compliant!

Correct loading and securing of goods on road vehicles is essential to ensuring safe road transport. It is important that the securing of goods on a vehicle is carried out in accordance with recognised standards, and in compliance

with relevant national legal requirements for road traffic, road safety and worker protection. In order to improve load safety in practice, the IRU has developed this checklist of harmonised tips for safe loading and load securing.

Before loading a vehicle



- ✓ Make sure that the vehicle(s), if applicable, is suitable for transport of the specified load.



- ✓ Make sure that the load platform and the vehicle's bodywork are clean, in good condition and free from defects.



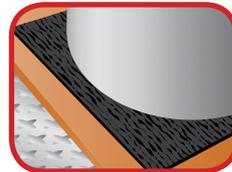
- ✓ Determine the optimal loading equipment for the intended load.



- ✓ Determine the best method(s) to secure the defined load (blocking, direct lashing, top-over lashing, or combinations of method).



- ✓ Determine the number and type of lashings and/or chains to best secure the load.

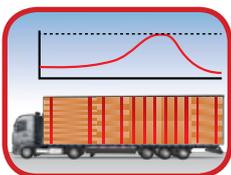


- ✓ Determine the number of anti-slip mats and other securing materials (pallets, edge protectors, etc) to best secure the load.

While loading and securing the load



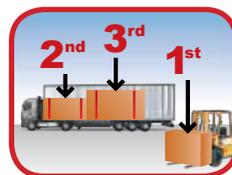
- ✓ Load in accordance with the allowed vehicle weight.



- ✓ Load cargo in accordance with the allowed vehicle axle-load distribution.



- ✓ Arrange load and/or its individual units optimally (lighter goods at the top, heavier on the bottom).

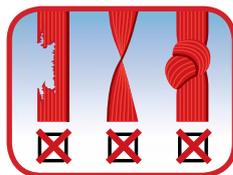


- ✓ Load in accordance with the planned unloading sequence.

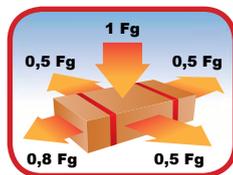
While loading and securing the load



- ✓ Avoid unnecessary space between individual load units.



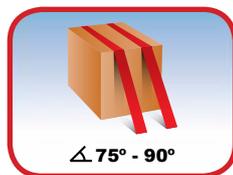
- ✓ Check that the securing equipment and materials are in good condition and free from defects.



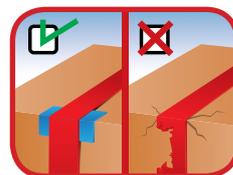
- ✓ Check that the securing arrangements distribute the forces exerted by the load as evenly as possible.



- ✓ Check that the securing equipment and materials display legible and correct markings.

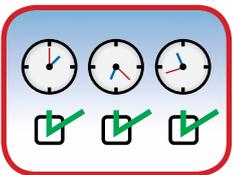


- ✓ Check that all lashings are affixed to optimise angles.

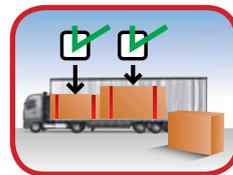


- ✓ Check that securing arrangements do not damage the load and that the load does not damage the securing arrangements.

During the journey



- ✓ When appropriate, check the load securing arrangements at periodic intervals during the journey.



- ✓ Each time a load unit is unloaded, redistributed, or loaded, adapt and recheck the load securing arrangement.



- ✓ If emergency braking or another abnormal condition occurs during the journey, check the load at the nearest safe place.



- ✓ Drive smoothly and anticipate traffic situations to avoid any sudden change of direction or heavy braking.

This checklist is provided to you by the **IRU Academy**, the training arm of the **International Road Transport Union (IRU)**.

See our training programmes on www.iru.org/academy