

Safe loading, transport and unloading

1. Always load to the headboard if you can

If there is a gap between the load and the headboard, the load can shift forward under braking, risking the life of the driver and other road users.

If the load cannot be loaded to the headboard, use blocking or dunnage to fill the gap



2. Loads should not move independently of the trailer



Loads should be restrained so that they can't move independently of the trailer.

Load **containment** (stopping the load from being ejected from the trailer) is not the same as load **restraint**.

Unrestrained loads can increase the risk of vehicle rollover and risk the life of the driver and other road users.

3. Curtains should not be used for load securing

The curtains of a curtain-sided vehicle are for weather protection and they should not be used to contain the load.

Even if the load does not fall from the trailer on the road, as soon as the curtain is opened an unstable load will fall out.

Webbing straps suspended from the roof of a curtain-sided vehicle are not suitable for load restraint.



4. Lashings should not be secured to rope hooks

Webbing straps and/or chains should never be secured to rope hooks.

Rope hooks are there to tie down a tarpaulin. They are not rated for load securing.

Lashings should be secured either directly to the chassis, or to rated attachment points.



5. Webbing straps are vulnerable to damage



Webbing straps should be checked regularly for damage. Even a small cut or tear can reduce the strength of the strap significantly.

Straps should never be knotted and, if they pass over a sharp or rough edge such as steel or concrete, should be used with edge protectors or sleeves to prevent the strap being damaged.

6. Information should travel with the load

It is important that the driver is given relevant information about how his load has been secured, especially if he has not seen it loaded. This information should also be available to the delivery site.

Consignors have a duty to ensure that the load is loaded in such a way that it does not present a danger to others.

Word of mouth should not be relied on, particularly if there is a language barrier.

Annex D
(Information)

Table D.1 - Example for a load securing checklist (no copyright)

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Vehicle		Type of vehicle			
Registration	Year	Truck	Tractor	Trailer	Other
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66
67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78
79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100	101	102

Diagram illustrating the layout of the vehicle and load: