

Hauling Bulk Materials Checklist

- Determine how much your vehicle is rated to tow. Tare weight is the weight of an empty vehicle or trailer. By subtracting it from the gross weight (laden weight), the weight of the goods carried (the net weight) may be determined. Most full size half ton 1500 series trucks can carry a TON of rock or sand (2000 pounds).
- Check tire pressure for proper inflation.
- Bring a tarp that will cover your truck bed or trailer. It should be large enough to fold over your load or tailgate, and secure with bungee ties and tie down straps. Don't Overload. Keep material level with truck bed or trailer unless tied down, or tarped.
- Check and seal the gap between the bed and tailgate to keep material from leaking out. Materials below the truck bed should also be secured if there's any chance of them blowing out or falling from the vehicle.
- Water is available to wet down your load, this helps the fine light materials like compost and woodchips from blowing out while traveling.
- Double-Check: Make sure your load is secure at the back, on the sides and top.
Is there any chance of debris falling or blowing out of my vehicle?
Would I feel safe if I were driving behind MY vehicle?
- Children MUST remain in vehicle at all times while in the stockyard for safety.

Ton Ratings & Payloads

In the United States, commercial truck classification is determined based on the vehicle's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR). The classes range from 1–8. Trucks are also classified more broadly by the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), which groups classes 1–3 as light duty, 4–6 as medium duty, and 7–8 as heavy duty.

Light Duty

Class 1	(GVWR) ranges from 0–6000 lb.	(Honda Ridgeline, Toyota Tacoma, Nissan Frontier, GMC Canyon).
Class 2	(GVWR) ranges from 6001–10000 lb.	(Toyota Tundra, Dodge Ram 1500, Chevrolet Silverado 1500, Ford F-150).
Class 2a	(GVWR) ranges from 6001–8500 lb.	Class 2a is commonly referred to as a light duty truck. (Ford Ranger, Dodge Dakota).
Class 2b	(GVWR) ranges from 8501–10000 lb.	Class 2b being the lowest heavy-duty class, also called the light heavy-duty class.
Class 3	(GVWR) ranges from 10001–14000 lb.	(Dodge Ram 3500, Ford F-350, GMC Sierra 3500).

Medium Duty

Class 4	(GVWR) ranges from 14001–16000 lb.	(Ford F-450 trucks, Dodge Ram 4500, GMC 4500).
Class 5	(GVWR) ranges from 16001–19500 lb.	(International TerraStar, GMC 5500. Dodge Ram 5500, Ford F-550).
Class 6	(GVWR) ranges from 19501–26000 lb.	(International Durastar, GMC Topkick C6500, Ford F-650).

Heavy Duty

Class 7	(GVWR) ranges from 26001–33000 lb.	Class 7 and above require a Class B license to operate in the United States.
Class 8	(GVWR) is anything above 33000 lb.	These include most tractor trailer trucks.