

COMBINATION VEHICLES INSPECTION MEMORY AID

Note: All drivers may use this aid during their pre-trip inspection test. Be prepared to point to or touch the listed items and explain “what” you would look for.

ENGINE COMPARTMENT

- alternator mounted securely and belt *
- water pump mounted securely and belt *
- air compressor mounted securely and belt *
* if gear driven, mention to the examiner.
- coolant, oil and power steering levels.
- leaks and hoses.

VEHICLE FRONT

- steering box and steering linkage.
- springs and spring mounts.
- shock absorber.
- brake hose or line.
- brake drum or rotor.
- tire and rim.
- lug nuts and hub oil seal.

If air brake equipped

- brake hose.
- slack adjustor.
- brake chamber.

VEHICLE SIDE

- door and mirror.
- fuel tank mounted securely, leaks and cap.
- frame and drive shaft.
- exhaust.
- catwalk and steps.

TRACTOR/TRUCK REAR

- air hoses and electrical line.

TRAILER FRONT

- header board.
- air hoses and electrical line connection.

COUPLING DEVICE

Fifth Wheel

- mounting bolts.
- locking pins (for slider).
- release arm.
- platform.
- kingpin and apron.

Pintle Hook

- pintle hook.
- locking pins, safety latch.
- safety chains.
- safety chain brackets.
- tow bar and tow bar eye.

TRAILER SIDE

- landing gear.
- reflectors.
- frame and deck.
- door and hinges.

TRAILER REAR AXLE

- springs or air bag.
- spring mounts or air bag mounts.
- shock absorber/torsion bar.
- brake hose or line.
- brake drum or rotor.
- tires and rim.
- spacer.
- lug nuts and hub oil seal.

If air brake equipped

- brake hose.
- slack adjustor.
- brake chamber.

TRAILER REAR

- doors and hinges.
- splash guards and reflectors.

VEHICLE LIGHTS

- headlights (high and low beam).
- front signals and 4-way flashers.
- front and side clearance.
- rear tail.
- rear signals and 4-way flashers.
- rear brake and clearance lights.

INSIDE VEHICLE

- clutch (depressed) gearshift (neutral).
- all gauges (oil, voltmeter, air/vacuum, etc.).
- speedometer and light indicators.
- steering wheel play.
- horn(s).
- mirrors adjusted and windshield condition.
- wipers, heater and defroster.
- safety/emergency equipment.
- parking brake.
- brake system check (see next page for correct procedure).
- service brake check (see next page for correct procedure).

***Belt** Check for proper tension, cracks or frays.

Note: All drivers are required to complete a brake system check correctly in order to pass their pre-trip inspection. The correct process is listed below according to the vehicles braking system.

BRAKE SYSTEM CHECK FOR HYDRAULIC BRAKES

If the vehicle has hydraulic brakes, with the engine running, apply firm pressure to the service (foot) brake pedal and hold for five seconds. The brake pedal should not move.

BRAKE SYSTEM CHECK FOR AIR BRAKES

If the vehicle has air brakes, you will need to check for leaks (L), warning alarm/signal (A) and for the button (B). This test is commonly referred to as the LAB inspection.

(L) - LEAKS

With a fully charged air system (typically 120 psi), turn off the engine, chock the wheels, release (push in) the parking brake button and trailer air supply (if the trailer has air brakes). Apply firm pressure to the service (foot) brake pedal. Watch the air supply gauge and listen for leaks. After the initial pressure drop, the loss rate for single vehicles should be no more than 3 psi in one minute and no more than 4 psi in one minute for combination vehicles (if the trailer has air brakes). If the air loss rate exceeds those figures, your air brake system will need to be repaired prior to continuing with the skills test.

(A) - ALARM/SIGNAL

Turn the key to the on position. Rapidly apply and release (fanning) the service (foot) brake pedal to reduce air tank pressure. The low air pressure warning signal (light, buzzer, etc.) must come on before the pressure drops to less than 60 psi in the air tank.

(B) - BUTTON

Continue to rapidly apply and release (fanning) the service (foot) brake pedal to further reduce air tank pressure. The trailer supply button (if the trailer has air brakes) and the parking brake button (all air brake vehicles) should pop out when the air pressure falls to the manufacturer's specification (usually between 20 to 40 psi). This causes the spring brakes to come on.

TEST SERVICE (FOOT) BRAKES PRIOR TO OPERATING

If your vehicle has **air brakes**, build up your air pressure to normal operating range (typically 120 psi), release (push in) the parking brake button (all air brake vehicles) and the trailer air supply button (if the trailer has air brakes). Move forward slowly (about 5 mph) and apply the service (foot) brake pedal firmly. Note any vehicle "Pulling" to one side, unusual feel or delayed stopping action.

If your vehicle has **hydraulic brakes**, release the parking brake, move forward slowly (about 5 mph) and apply the service (foot) brake pedal firmly. Note any vehicle "Pulling" to one side, unusual feel or delayed stopping action.

Note: If your vehicle is air brake equipped, you must locate and identify all air brake system components, test you service (foot) brakes and correctly perform the LAB in order to pass the air brake portion of the pre-trip inspection.
