



Towing Checklist

FORM

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE OWNER

Towing checklist, towbar maintenance and care

1. Ensure that all trailer lights are operational before driving off (brake, indicators and tail).
2. Ensure the trailer is securely coupled to the towing vehicle.
3. Ensure the load is safely secured and within the towing capacity of the trailer and towing vehicle (refer to your vehicle owner's manual for recommended towing capacity).
4. The towball weight should be approximately 10% of the gross trailer weight.
5. The height of the 50mm towball from ground to be between 350mm-460mm, when vehicle is laden.
6. Depending on the weight load you are towing, correct braking systems are required by law. For example:
 - (a) *Up to 750kg* GTM (gross trailer mass) no braking system is required;
 - (b) *751kg to 2000kg* GTM – must have a braking system to at least one axle;
 - (c) Where the *GTM exceeds 2000kg*: the braking system must be fitted with a breakaway system that causes the brakes to engage if the trailer becomes disconnected from the towing vehicle; and
 - (d) Caravans exceeding 1000kg: an independent braking system is strongly recommended (electric brakes are the most common).
7. Loosen the anti-rattle bolt when towing.
8. Allow for maximum available departure angle to prevent any potential interference.
9. It is recommended that towbar securing bolts are regularly inspected and checked for correct torque tension (refer bolt torque table):

RECOMMENDED TORQUE SETTINGS	
BOLT DIAMETER	GRADE 8.8 BOLT
M6	9.5 Nm
M8	21.7Nm
M10	43.4Nm
M12	77.3Nm
M14	122Nm
M16	189.8Nm

10. It is recommended the towball nut is tightened to the manufacturers specifications (range of 200-250 Nm depending on manufacturer) and check prior to each use.
11. It is recommended that any worn or defective parts be replaced.
12. Removal of tow ball mount is advisable if not being used for long periods of time.
13. Whilst not towing, a towball or hitch that obscures the number plate is illegal and may incur a fine.
14. **DO NOT DRILL, CUT, WELD OR OTHERWISE MODIFY THE TOWBAR.**
15. **FOR TOWING PURPOSES ONLY**
16. **NOT FOR OFF-ROAD USE**