



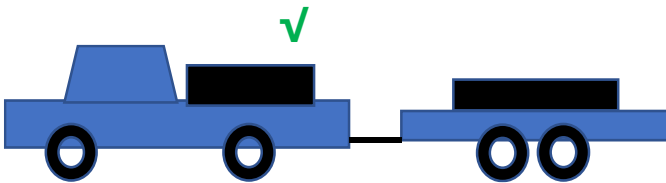
SAFETY ALERT



Trailer Sway Safety

A swaying trailer or caravan is a sight easily recalled – it's terrifying, and more so if you are driving the towing vehicle! This alert presents simple measures to avoid towing a swaying trailer.

Create conditions to reduce swaying:



- 1. A heavier tow vehicle/ smaller trailer combination**
Heavier tow vehicles have more control

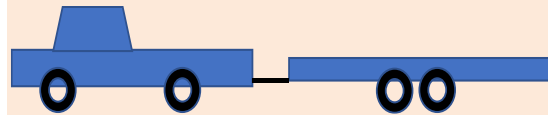
- 2. Keep loads low and centralised.**
Lower centre of gravity,
Less wind influence,
Shorter sway angles and time

- 3. Keep equal weight on all four tyres**
Major influence on road holding and steering controls.
Ensure tyres are in good order, correctly fitted and correctly inflated.

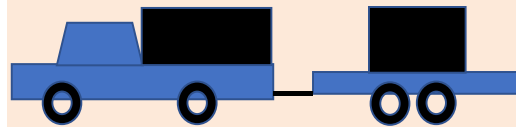
- 4. Avoid excessive acceleration (overtaking) on down hills.**
Speed increase = (sway)²
Downhill trailer momentum causes sway

Avoid conditions that contribute to sway:

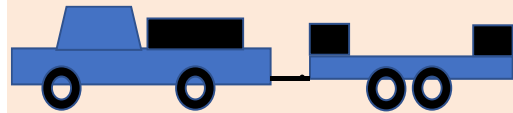
X



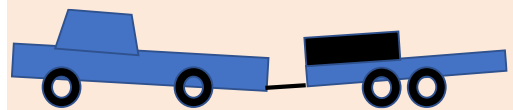
Larger trailers – larger sway



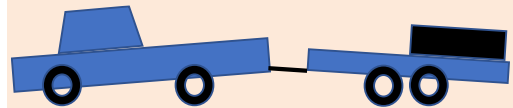
Higher loads are susceptible to cross-winds and gusts from passing vehicles.



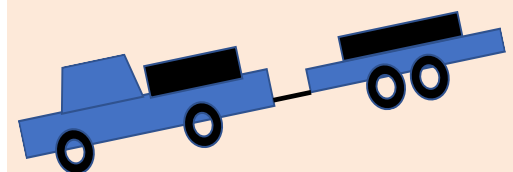
A heavy ended trailer will oscillate more



Steering seriously impeded, difficult to straighten out.



Poor control, trailer zigzags



It's that simple! Think before you load and drive.

24 April 2022

