



Least Resistance Training Concepts
Trailer Safety Program
Nevada Trailer Regulations
April, 2004



Lighting and Reflectors:

All trailers shall be equipped with tail lamps, turn signals and brake lamps.

Trailers of widths of 80" or more shall be equipped with side marker lamps and front and rear clearance lamps located so as to project the overall height and size of the trailer. A three-lamp identification cluster is required at the rear center of the trailer. If the identification cluster is mounted at the top of the trailer, the rear clearance lamps can be at any height 15 inches or more above ground. Trailers over 30 feet in length shall be equipped with additional amber side marker lamps on each side, mid point along the length of the trailer.

Trailers of widths of 80" or more shall be equipped with reflectors on the sides near the front and rear, and facing the rear. The reflectors shall be readily visible from at least 600 ft. away when struck with properly adjusted low beam headlamps. Trailers over 30 feet in length shall be equipped with additional amber reflectors on each side, mid point along the length of the trailer.

All trailers shall be equipped with safety chains or cables.

All trailers over 3000 Lbs. (gross) shall be equipped with service brakes. Brakes must be adjusted so that the loaded combination can be stopped within 50 feet when traveling 20 MPH on good pavement.

All trailers over 3000 Lbs. (gross) shall be equipped with braking systems that automatically apply if the trailer breaks away, and which will remain applied for at least 15 minutes.

Class C drivers towing private trailers over 10,000 Lbs. (gross) must have a "J" endorsement.

Winter Traction:

All towing vehicles shall carry chains for the tow vehicle's drive axle and the trailer's braking axle when driving in winter conditions. Four wheel drive vehicles must chain the front axle when towing in chain control areas.

DOT Requirements (Generally apply to commercial vehicles and larger trailers. Enforced in some states such as California.)

Three DOT approved emergency reflector stands are required to be carried in all combinations of heavy vehicles for which clearance lamps are required (generally 80 inches or wider.)

DOT red/silver striping shall be applied along the sides and rear of all trailers 80 inches or wider.

(Note: Studies have shown that DOT reflective striping has reduced nighttime accidents involving other vehicles striking trailers by 26%!)

APPLICABLE NEVADA REVISED STATUTE EXCERPTS

NRS 484.503 Lighting and Reflectors - Colors

Front clearance lamps, identification lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the front or on the side near the front of a vehicle shall display or reflect an amber color.

Rear clearance lamps, identification lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle shall display or reflect a red color.

NRS 484.561 Additional Equipment for Lighting Required

3. On every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in overall width there shall be the following:
 - (a) On the front, two clearance lamps, one at each side.
 - (b) On the rear, two clearance lamps and three identification lamps meeting the requirements of subsection 8.
 - (c) On each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear.
 - (d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear.

5. In addition to the requirements of subsection 3, on every trailer and semitrailer 30 feet or more in overall length there shall be, on each side, one amber side marker lamp and one amber reflector centrally located with respect to the length of the trailer.

8. Identification lamps shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced not less than 6 nor more than 12 inches apart, and mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle centerline.

NRS 484.565 Mounting of Reflectors, Clearance Lamps & Side Marker Lamps

1. Reflectors required in NRS 484.563 shall be mounted at a height not less than 15 inches and not higher than 60 inches above the ground on which the vehicle stands, except that if the highest part of the permanent structure of the vehicle is less than 15 inches the reflector at such point shall be mounted as high as that part of the permanent structure will permit.

2. Any required red reflector on the rear of such vehicle may be incorporated with the tail lamp, but such reflector shall meet all the other reflector requirements of this chapter.

3. Except as provided in subsections 4 and 5, clearance lamps shall be mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle in such a manner as to indicate its extreme width and as near the top as is practicable. Clearance lamps and side marker lamps may be mounted in combination provided illumination is given as required in this chapter with reference to both.

4. When rear identification lamps are mounted at the extreme height of the vehicle, rear clearance lamps may be mounted at optional height.

5. When mounting of front clearance lamps at the highest point on a trailer results in such lamps failing to mark the extreme width of a trailer, such lamps shall be mounted at a height to indicate the extreme width of the trailer.

NRS 484-567 Visibility Requirements for Reflectors, Clearance Lamps, Etc.

1. Every reflector required by NRS 484.561 shall be of such size and characteristics and so maintained as to be readily visible at nighttime from all distances within 600 feet to 100 feet from the vehicle when directly in front of the lawful lower beams of head lamps.
2. Every front and rear clearance lamp and identification lamp required by NRS 484.561 shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lighted lamps are required at all distances between 500 feet to 50 feet from the front and rear, respectively, of the vehicle on which mounted.
3. Every side marker lamp required by NRS 484.561 shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lighted lamps are required at all distances between 500 and 50 feet from the side of the vehicle on which mounted.

NRS 484.593 Brakes: Equipment Required

5. Every trailer, semitrailer ... with a gross weight in excess of 3,000 pounds manufactured or assembled after July 1, 1969, must be equipped with brakes on all wheels and of such character as to be applied automatically and promptly and remain applied for at least 15 minutes, upon breakaway from the towing vehicle.
6. Every trailer, semitrailer, house trailer or pole trailer of 3,000 pounds or more gross weight or equaling more than 40 percent of the towing vehicle, manufactured or assembled before July 1, 1975, must be equipped with brakes on at least two wheels.

NRS 484.773 Regulations: Equipment Required

2. Safety chains and cables (for connecting vehicles together) for combinations of vehicles.