



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at:
www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. If you are driving a truck or bus that cannot make the right turn without swinging into another lane:
 - Don't turn wide to the left as you start the turn. A following driver may think you are turning left and try to pass you on the right.
 - Turn wide as you complete the turn. Keep the rear of your vehicle close to the curb.

2 – Space for Turns

2. Every time you stop during a trip, you should check the following items for signs of trouble:

- Tires, wheels and rims.
- Brakes.
- Lights and reflectors.
- Brake and electrical connections to trailer.
- Trailer coupling devices.
- Cargo securement devices.

2 – Vehicle Inspection

3. States often set axle weight limits by a:

- Bridge formula - A bridge formula permits less maximum axle weight for axles that are closer together to prevent overloading bridges and roadways.

3 – Legal Weight Limits





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

4. The Department of Transportation requires that ABS be on:

- Truck tractors with air brakes built on or after March 1, 1997.
- Other air brake vehicles, (trucks, buses, trailers, and converter dollies) built on or after March 1, 1998.
- Hydraulically braked trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 lbs. or more built on or after March 1, 1999.

2 – Vehicles Required to Have Antilock Braking Systems

5. Systems that have a manufacturer's weight capacity rating are known as:

- Suspension Systems.

3 – Definitions You Should Know

6. On downgrades, your most important objective is to select and maintain a speed that is not too fast for the:

- Total weight of the vehicle and cargo.
- Length of the grade.
- Steepness of the grade.
- Road conditions.
- Weather.

2 – Speed on Downgrades

7. Hazardous materials are:

- Products that pose a risk to health, safety, and property during transportation.

2 – What Are Hazardous Materials?

8. Step 1 of the Seven-Step Inspection Method may include:

- A review of the Last Vehicle Inspection Report.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

9. The intent of the Hazardous Materials rules is to:

- Contain the product. - To protect drivers and others from contact, the rules tell shippers how to package safely.
- Communicate the risk. - The shipper uses a shipping paper and diamond shaped hazard labels to warn dockworkers and drivers of the risk.
- Ensure safe drivers and equipment.

2 – Why Are There Rules?



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

10. These trailers can get stuck on raised crossings:

- Low slung units (lowboy, car carrier, moving van, possum-belly livestock trailer).
- Single-axle tractor pulling a long trailer with its landing gear set to accommodate a tandem axle tractor.

2 – Special Situations

11. Poor weight balance can lead to:

- Too much weight on the steering axle causing hard steering.
- Damage to the steering axle and tires.

3 – Balance the Weight

12. You should shift the transmission to a low gear before starting down a mountain grade because:

- After your speed has already built up, you will not be able to shift into a lower gear.
- You may not even be able to get back into any gear and all engine braking effect will be lost.
- Forcing an automatic transmission into a lower gear at high speed could damage the transmission and also lead to loss of all engine braking effect.

2 – Select the Right Gear Before Starting Down the Grade

13. Drivers of trucks and truck tractors when transporting cargo must inspect the securement of the cargo within:

- The first 50 miles of a trip and;
- Every 150 miles or every three hours (whichever comes first) after.

2 – Inspection During a Trip

14. If the Anti-lock Brakes (ABS) on your trailer are not functioning properly, the:

- Yellow light on the left rear of the trailer will remain on.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

15. On a left turn:

- Make sure you have reached the center of the intersection before you start the left turn.

2 – Space for Turns



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

16. To avoid driving distractions:

- Review and be totally familiar with all safety and usage features on any in-vehicle electronics, including your wireless or cell phone, before you drive.
- Pre-program radio stations.
- Pre-load you favorite CDs or cassette tapes.
- Clear the vehicle of any unnecessary objects.
- Review maps and plan your route before you begin driving.
- Adjust all mirrors for best all-round visibility before you start your trip.
- Don't attempt to read or write while you drive.
- Avoid smoking, eating and drinking while you drive.
- Don't engage in complex or emotionally intense conversations with other occupants.

2 – Don't Drive Distracted

17. When driving in fog conditions:

- Obey all fog-related warning signs.
- Slow down before you enter fog.
- Use low-beam headlights and fog lights; even in daytime.
- Turn on your 4-way flashers.
- Watch for vehicles on the side of the roadway.
- Use roadside highway reflectors as guides to determine how the road may curve ahead of you.
- Listen for traffic you cannot see.
- Avoid passing other vehicles.
- Don't stop along the side of the road, unless absolutely necessary.

2– Driving in Fog

18. Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) is the:

- Total weight of a single vehicle plus its load.

3 – Definitions You Should Know

19. Examples of roadway hazards include:

- Work zones.
- Drop offs.
- Foreign objects in the road.
- Off Ramps/On Ramps.

2 – Hazardous Roads



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

20. Vehicle factors that make night driving risky include dirty or badly adjusted:

- Headlights.
- Other lights.
- Turn Signals and Brake Lights.
- Windshield and Mirrors.

2 – Vehicle Factors

21. You must know the rules for inspecting your cargo in the places where you will be going because:

- Federal, state, and local regulations for commercial vehicle weight, securing cargo, covering loads, and where you can drive large vehicles vary from place to place.

3 – Inspecting Cargo

22. Step 6 of the Seven-Step Inspection Method includes:

- Check Signal Lights.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

23. When checking the condition of brake drums or shoes, look for:

- Cracked drums.
- Shoes or pads with oil, grease, or brake fluid on them.
- Shoes worn dangerously thin, missing, or broken.

2 – Vehicle Inspection

24. When driving in mountains, your most important consideration is to select a speed that is not too fast for the:

- Total weight of the vehicle and cargo.
- Length of the grade.
- Steepness of the grade.
- Road conditions.
- Weather.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

2 – Select a "Safe" Speed

25. When you have to back up, follow these safety rules:

- Start in the proper position.
- Look at your path.
- Use mirrors on both sides.
- Back slowly.
- Back and turn toward the driver's side whenever possible.
- Use a helper whenever possible.

2 – Backing Safely

26. If you have to leave the road to avoid a crash:

- Avoid Braking If Possible. Until your speed has dropped to about 20 mph.
- Keep One Set of Wheels on the Pavement, if Possible.
- Stay on the Shoulder.

2 – Steering to Avoid a Crash

27. Braking in a curve is dangerous because:

- It is easier to lock the wheels and cause a skid.

2 – Speed and Curves

28. Dry bulk tanks require special care because:

- They have a high center of gravity, and the load can shift. Be extremely cautious (slow and careful) going around curves and making sharp turns.

3 – Dry Bulk

29. Hazardous chemicals and the identification numbers assigned to them are listed in the:

- US DOT Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG).

2 – Lists of Regulated Products

30. There are three types of vehicle inspections:

- Pre- trip.
- During trip.
- After trip inspection and report.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

2 – Vehicle Inspection

31. Aggressive driving is:

- The act of operating a motor vehicle in a selfish, bold, or pushy manner, without regard for the rights or safety of others.

2 – What Is It?

32. To ensure clear space above your vehicle:

- Don't assume that the heights posted at bridges and overpasses are correct.
- The weight of a cargo van changes its height. An empty van is higher than a loaded one.
- If you aren't sure you have safe space to pass under an object, take another route.
- Some roads can cause a vehicle to tilt, drive a little closer to the center of the road.
- Before you back into an area, get out and check for overhanging objects.

2 – Space Overhead

33. To reduce stress while driving:

- Reduce your stress before and while you drive.
- Give the drive your full attention. Don't allow yourself to become distracted.
- Be realistic. Expect delays because of traffic, construction, or bad weather and make allowances.
- If you're going to be late – take a deep breath and accept the delay.
- Slow down and keep your following distance reasonable.
- Don't drive slowly in the left lane of traffic.
- Avoid gestures.
- Be a cautious and courteous driver.

2 – Don't Be an Aggressive Driver

34. Here are some rules to follow in putting out a fire:

- When using an extinguisher, stay as far away from the fire as possible.
- Aim at the source or base of the fire, not up in the flames.

2 – Fire Fighting

35. When driving in very hot conditions, pre-trip inspections should include a check for:

- Tires.
- Engine Oil.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- Engine Coolant.
- Engine Belts.

2 – Vehicle Checks

36. To use “Stab Braking” in an emergency:

- Apply your brakes all the way.
- Release brakes when wheels lock up.
- As soon as the wheels start rolling, apply the brakes fully again.

2 – How to Stop Quickly and Safely

37. In addition to your pre-trip inspection you must:

- Inspect the cargo and its securing devices again within the first 50 miles (25 miles in California) after beginning a trip. Make any adjustments needed.

3 – Inspecting Cargo

38. Too little weight on the driving axles can cause:

- Poor traction.

3 – Balance the Weight

39. The two styles of braking used in an emergency are:

- Controlled Braking.
- Stab Braking.

2 – How to Stop Quickly and Safely

40. In an emergency, your total stopping distance includes the:

- Perception Distance + Reaction Distance + Braking Distance.

2 – Stopping Distance

41. Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR) is the:

- Maximum Gross Combination Weight (GCW) specified by the manufacturer for a specific combination of vehicles plus its load.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

3 – Definitions You Should Know

42. Mirrors can only be adjusted accurately when:

- The trailer is straight.

2 – Seeing to the Sides and Rear

43. It is important to look at your cargo covers in the mirrors from time to time while driving because:

- A flapping cover can tear loose, uncovering the cargo, and possibly block yours or someone else's view.

3 – Covering Cargo

44. When steering to avoid an emergency:

- Do not apply the brake while you are turning. - It's very easy to lock your wheels while turning.
- Do not turn any more than needed to clear whatever is in your way - You run the risk of a skid or rollover.
- Be prepared to "counter-steer," - To turn the wheel back in the other direction, once you've passed whatever was in your path.

2 – Steering to Avoid a Crash

45. When driving in winter conditions:

- Slippery Surfaces. Drive slowly and smoothly on slippery roads.
- Start Gently and Slowly. When first starting, get the feel of the road. Don't hurry.
- Check for ice on the road especially on bridges and overpasses.
- Adjust Turning and Braking to Conditions. Make turns as gently as possible. Don't brake any harder than necessary.
- Adjust Speed to Conditions. Go slowly and watch far enough ahead to keep a steady speed.
- Adjust Space to Conditions. Don't drive alongside other vehicles.
- Wet Brakes. Water in the brakes can cause the brakes to be weak, to apply unevenly, or to grab.

2 – Driving

46. When checking cargo securement on trucks, check to see that:

- Cargo properly blocked, braced, tied, chained, etc.
- Header board adequate, secure (if required).
- Side boards, stakes strong enough, free of damage, properly set in place (if equipped).
- Canvas or tarp (if required) properly secured to prevent tearing, billowing, or blocking of mirrors.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- If oversized, all required signs (flags, lamps, and reflectors) safely and properly mounted and all required permits in driver's possession.
- Curbside cargo compartment doors in good condition, securely closed, latched/locked and required security seals in place.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

47. Devices used in the front, back, and/or sides of a piece of cargo to keep it from sliding are known as:

- **Blocking.**

3 – Blocking and Bracing

48. Step 3 of the Seven-Step Inspection Method includes:

- **Get In and Start Engine.**
- **Look at the Gauges.**
- **Check Condition of Controls.**
- **Check Mirrors and Windshield.**
- **Check Emergency Equipment.**
- **Check Safety Belt.**

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

49. No matter how small the cargo, it should have at least:

- **Two tiedowns.**

3 – Cargo Tiedown

50. Alcohol affects judgment, vision, coordination, and reaction time. It causes serious driving errors, such as:

- **Increased reaction time to hazards.**
- **Driving too fast or too slow.**
- **Driving in the wrong lane.**
- **Running over the curb.**
- **Weaving.**

2 – Alcohol and Driving

51. Step 2 of the Seven-Step Inspection Method includes:

- **Engine oil level.**
- **Coolant level in radiator; condition of hoses.**
- **Power steering fluid level; hose condition (if so equipped).**
- **Windshield washer fluid level.**
- **Battery fluid level, connections, and tie downs (battery may be located elsewhere).**



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- Automatic transmission fluid level (may require engine to be running).
- Check belts for tightness and excessive wear (alternator, water pump, air compressor) — learn how much "give" the belts should have when adjusted right, and check each one.
- Leaks in the engine compartment (fuel, coolant, oil, power steering fluid, hydraulic fluid, battery fluid).
- Cracked, worn electrical wiring insulation.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

52. Cargo should have at least one tiedown for each:

- Ten feet of cargo.

3 – Cargo Tiedown

53. While inspecting the condition of visible parts on both the left and right sides, check:

- Rear of engine--not leaking.
- Transmission--not leaking.
- Exhaust system--secure, not leaking, not touching wires, fuel, or air lines.
- Frame and cross members--no bends or cracks.
- Air lines and electrical wiring—secured against snagging, rubbing, wearing.
- Spare tire carrier or rack not damaged (if so equipped).
- Spare tire and/or wheel securely mounted in rack.
- Spare tire and wheel adequate (proper size, properly inflated).

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

54. The best advice for driving in fog is:

- Don't!

2 – Driving in Fog

55. The structure designed to protect the driver from forward movement of the cargo in a crash or emergency stop is known as the:

- Header Board (Headache Board).

3 – Header Boards

56. If you must stop on or by a one-way or divided highway, place warning devices:

- 10 feet, 100 feet, and 200 feet toward the approaching traffic.

2 – Communicating Your Presence

57. When checking fuel tanks, check for:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- Securely mounted, not damaged, or leaking.
- Fuel crossover line secure.
- Tank(s) contain enough fuel.
- Cap(s) on and secure.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

58. To check hydraulic brakes for leaks:

- Pump the brake pedal three times. Then apply firm pressure to the pedal and hold for five seconds. The pedal should not move. If it does, there may be a leak or other problem. Get it fixed before driving.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

59. Skids are caused in one of four ways:

- Over-braking.
- Over-steering.
- Over-acceleration.
- Driving Too Fast.

2 – Skid Control and Recovery

60. When accelerating:

- Don't roll back when you start. You may hit someone behind you.
- If you have a manual transmission, partly engage the clutch before you take your right foot off the brake.
- Put on the parking brake whenever necessary to keep from rolling back.
- Speed up smoothly and gradually. Fast starts can cause damage to the coupling and cause loss of traction in rain or snow.

2 – Accelerating

61. The basic steps to be taken at any collision are to:

- Protect the area. Move off the road if possible to prevent another collision.
- Notify authorities. Call 911.
- Care for the injured.

2 – Accident Procedures

62. If using a cell phone, whenever possible:

- Pull off the road in a safe, legal place when making/receiving a call on communication equipment.
- Turn the cell phone off until your destination is reached.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- Position the cell phone within easy reach.
- Pre-program cell phones with commonly called numbers.
- Do not place a call while driving.
- Keep conversations short.
- Do not use the equipment when approaching locations with heavy traffic, road construction, heavy pedestrian traffic, or severe weather conditions.
- Do not attempt to type or read messages while driving.

2 – Use In-vehicle Communication Equipment Cautiously

63. Retarders help slow a vehicle, reducing the need for using your brakes. There are four types of retarders:

- Exhaust.
- Engine.
- Hydraulic.
- Electric.

2 – Retarders

64. If you start to feel sleepy:

- Stop to Sleep - When your body needs sleep, sleep is the only thing that will work.
- Take a Nap - If you can't stop for the night, at least pull off at a safe place and take a nap.
- Avoid Drugs - There are no drugs that can overcome being tired. While they may keep you awake for a while, they won't make you alert.
- Do Not - Do not rely on coffee or another source of caffeine to keep you awake. Do not count on the radio, an open window, or other tricks to keep you awake.

2 – When You Do Become Sleepy

65. Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) is determined by:

- The amount of alcohol you drink (more alcohol means higher BAC).
- How fast you drink (faster drinking means higher BAC).
- Your weight (a small person doesn't have to drink as much to reach the same BAC).

2 – Alcohol and Driving

66. Retarders should be turned off when:

- When their use is prohibited by local laws.
- Whenever the road is wet, icy, or snow covered.

2 – Retarders

67. In winter driving conditions:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- Don't use the engine brake or speed retarder. (They can cause the driving wheels to skid on slippery surfaces.)

2 – Driving

68. Hanging meat (suspended beef, pork, lamb) in a refrigerated truck can be a very unstable load with a:

- High center of gravity. Particular caution is needed on sharp curves such as off ramps and on ramps. Go slowly.

3 – Hanging Meat

69. Fire extinguishers are designed for specific types of fires:

- A - Wood, Paper, Ordinary Combustibles - Extinguish by cooling and quenching using water or dry chemicals.
- B - Gasoline, Oil, Grease, Other Greasy Liquids - Extinguish by smothering, cooling or heat shielding using carbon dioxide or dry chemicals.
- C - Electrical Equipment Fires - Extinguish with non-conducting agents such as carbon dioxide or dry chemicals. DO NOT USE WATER.
- D - Fires in Combustible Metals - Extinguish by using specialized extinguishing powders.

2 – Fire Fighting

70. Do the following to correct a drive-wheel braking skid:

- Stop Braking. This will let the rear wheels roll again, and keep the rear wheels from sliding.
- Counter-steer. Unless you turn the steering wheel quickly the other way, you may find yourself skidding in the opposite direction.

2 – Correcting a Drive-wheel Braking Skid

71. To maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead at speeds over 40 mph:

- Add one second for safety.

2 – Space Ahead

72. A _____ caused by improperly loaded cargo can cause a vehicle to tip over on a curve.

- High center of gravity

3 – Don't Be Top-heavy

73. To ensure that you are ready to drive:

- Get Enough Sleep - If you don't sleep enough, you "owe" more sleep to yourself. This debt can only be paid off by sleeping.
- Schedule Trips Safely - Try to arrange your schedule so you are not in "sleep debt" before a long trip.
- Exercise Regularly - Resistance to fatigue and improved sleep are among the benefits of regular exercise.
- Eat Healthy - Try to find restaurants with healthy, balanced meals.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- **Avoid Medication** - Many medicines can make you sleepy. The most common medicine of this type is ordinary cold pills.
- **Visit Your Doctor** - Regular checkups literally can be lifesavers. Illnesses such as diabetes, heart disease, and skin and colon cancer can be detected easily and treated if found in time.

2 – Be Ready to Drive

74. Other drugs that could affect your driving include:

- A variety of prescription and over-the-counter drugs (cold medicines), which may make the driver drowsy or otherwise affect safe driving ability.

2 – Other Drugs

75. Important things to remember about ABS braking systems:

- ABS won't allow you to drive faster, follow more closely, or drive less carefully.
- ABS won't prevent power or turning skids.
- ABS won't necessarily shorten stopping distance.
- ABS won't increase or decrease ultimate stopping power.
- ABS won't change the way you normally brake.
- ABS won't compensate for bad brakes or poor brake maintenance.

2 – Safety Reminders

76. Watching for hazards allows you to:

- Develop a plan to escape an emergency situation.

2 – Always Have a Plan

77. When braking with ABS:

- Use only the braking force necessary to stop safely and stay in control.
- Brake the same way, regardless of whether you have ABS on the bus, tractor, the trailer, or both.
- As you slow down, monitor your tractor and trailer and back off the brakes (if it is safe to do so) to stay in control.

There is only one exception to this procedure. If you drive a straight truck or combination with working ABS on all axles, in an emergency stop, you can fully apply the brakes.

2 – Braking with ABS

78. To warn others of hazardous materials being transported, shippers use:

- Placards.

2 – Lists of Regulated Products

79. When approaching railroad crossings:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- **Never Race a Train to a Crossing** - It is extremely difficult to judge the speed of an approaching train.
- **Reduce Speed** - In accordance with your ability to see approaching trains in any direction.
- **Don't Expect to Hear a Train.**
- **Don't Rely on Signals** - Be especially alert at crossings that do not have gates or flashing red light signals.
- **Double Tracks Require a Double Check** - A train on one track may hide a train on the other track.

2 – Driving Procedures

80. Whenever you are about to pass a vehicle, pedestrian, or bicyclist:

- **Assume that they don't see you.** Flash your bright lights quickly or give a tap on your horn to warn them.

2 – Communicating Your Presence

81. When you cross or enter traffic:

- **You may need a much larger gap to enter traffic than you would in a car.**
- **Acceleration varies with the load.** Allow more room if your vehicle is heavily loaded.
- **Before you start across a road, make sure you can get all the way across before traffic reaches you.**

2 – Space for Turns

82. Be aware that as the temperature rises to the point where ice begins to melt:

- **The road becomes even more slippery.**

2 – Driving

83. Scan your mirrors regularly to check:

- **Traffic** - Know where other vehicles are around you in case you have to make a quick lane change in an emergency.
- **Your Vehicle** - To keep an eye on your tires and cargo.
- **Special Situations** - These are lane changes, turns, merges, and tight maneuvers.
- **Lane Changes** - To make sure no one is alongside you or about to pass you.
- **Turns** - To make sure the rear of your vehicle will not hit anything.
- **Merges** - To make sure the gap in traffic is large enough for you to enter safely.
- **Tight Maneuvers** - To make sure you have enough clearance in tight quarters.

2 – Seeing to the Sides and Rear

84. To maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead, maintain a distance of:

- **One second for each 10 feet of vehicle length at speeds below 40 mph.**



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

2 – Space Ahead

85. The three elements that make up total stopping distance in an emergency are:

1. Perception distance - The distance your vehicle travels, in ideal conditions; from the time your eyes see a hazard until your brain recognizes it.
2. Reaction distance - The distance you will continue to travel, in ideal conditions; before you physically hit the brakes, in response to a hazard seen ahead.
3. Braking distance - The distance your vehicle will travel, in ideal conditions; while you are braking.

2 – Stopping Distance

86. In case of fire:

- Pull off the Road in an open area, away from buildings, trees, brush, other vehicles, or anything that might catch fire.
- Keep the Fire from Spreading. With an engine fire, turn off the engine and don't open the hood. For a cargo fire in a van or box trailer, keep the doors shut. Opening the van doors will supply the fire with oxygen.

2 – Fire Prevention

87. Step 7 of the Seven-Step Inspection Method includes:

- Test for Hydraulic Leaks.
- Test Parking Brake(s).
- Test Service Brake Stopping Action.

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

88. The two types of railroad crossings are:

- Passive Crossings - Does not have any type of traffic control device. Passive crossings have yellow circular advance warning signs, pavement markings and crossbucks to assist you in recognizing a crossing.
- Active Crossings - Has a traffic control device installed at the crossing to regulate traffic at the crossing including; flashing red lights, with or without bells and flashing red lights with bells and gates.

2 – Types of Crossings

89. When conducting an inspection of the left side you should:

- Check all items as done on right side, plus:
- Battery(ies) (if not mounted in engine compartment).
- Battery box(es) securely mounted to vehicle.
- Box has secure cover.
- Battery(ies) secured against movement.
- Battery(ies) not broken or leaking.
- Fluid in battery(ies) at proper level (except maintenance-free type).
- Cell caps present and securely tightened (except maintenance-free type).



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- Vents in cell caps free of foreign material (except maintenance-free type).

2 – Seven-step Inspection Method

90. When using turn signals to let others know what you are doing:

- Signal early - Signal well before you turn.
- Signal continuously - You need both hands on the wheel to turn safely.
- Cancel your signal - Don't forget to turn off your turn signal after you've turned.

2 – Signal Your Intentions

91. Most heavy vehicles with manual transmissions require double clutching to change gears. This is the basic method:

- Release accelerator, push in clutch and shift to neutral at the same time.
- Release clutch.
- Let engine and gears slow down to the rpm required for the next gear (this takes practice).
- Push in clutch and shift to the higher gear at the same time.
- Release clutch and press accelerator at the same time.

2 – Manual Transmissions

92. The Gross Combination Weight (GCW) is the:

- Total weight of a powered unit, plus trailer(s), plus the cargo.

3 – Definitions You Should Know

93. Proper tiedown equipment may include:

- Ropes.
- Straps.
- Chains.
- Tensioning devices (winches, ratchets, clinching components).

3 – Cargo Tiedown

94. If you have to stop by the side of the road, you must put out your emergency warning devices:

- Within ten minutes.

2 – Communicating Your Presence

95. When checking for wheel or rim problems, look for:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET

- **Damaged rims.**
- **Rust around wheel nuts may mean the nuts are loose--check tightness. After a tire has been changed, stop a short while later and re-check tightness of nuts.**
- **Missing clamps, spacers, studs, or lugs means danger.**
- **Mismatched, bent, or cracked lock rings are dangerous.**
- **Wheels or rims that have had welding repairs are not safe.**

2 – Vehicle Inspection

96. Hazard Materials Identification Numbers are:

- **A four digit code used by first responders to identify hazardous materials.**

2 – Lists of Regulated Products

97. When driving in mountains:

- **You must use the braking effect of the engine as the principal way of controlling your speed. The braking effect of the engine is greatest when it is near the governed rpms and the transmission is in the lower gears.**
- **Save your brakes so you will be able to slow or stop as required by road and traffic conditions.**

2 – Select a "Safe" Speed

98. Beware of distracted driving behaviors by other drivers by watching for:

- **Vehicles that may drift over the lane divider lines or within their own lane.**
- **Vehicles traveling at inconsistent speeds.**
- **Drivers who are preoccupied with maps, food, cigarettes, cell phones, or other objects.**
- **Drivers who appear to be involved in conversations with their passengers.**

2 – Watch Out for Other Distracted Drivers

99. Convex or curved mirrors allow you to see a wider area behind the vehicle but:

- **Everything appears smaller.**
- **Everything appears to be farther away than it actually is.**

2 – Seeing to the Sides and Rear



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL CHEAT SHEET



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at:
www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. Bus collisions most often happen:

- At intersections.

4 - Common Accidents

2. At railroad crossings, you do not have to stop, but must slow down and carefully check for other vehicles:

- At streetcar crossings.
- Where a policeman or flagman is directing traffic.
- If a traffic signal is green.
- At crossings marked as "exempt" or "abandoned."

4 - Railroad-highway Crossings Stops

3. In good weather, the posted speed on banked curves is:

- Safe for cars but it may be too high for many buses.

4 - Speed on Curves

4. There should be nothing in the aisle that:

- Might trip other riders.

4 - Loading and Trip Start





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

5. If your bus is disabled:

- Do not tow or push a disabled bus with riders aboard the vehicle, unless getting off would be unsafe.
- Only tow or push the bus to the nearest safe spot to discharge passengers.

4 - Prohibited Practices

6. Ensure your bus has the following emergency equipment required by law:

- Fire extinguisher.
- Emergency reflectors.

4 - Roof Hatches

7. No rider may stand:

- Forward of the rear of the driver's seat.

4 - Standee Line

8. Watch for diamond shaped labels and do not transport any hazardous material unless:

- You are sure the rules allow it.

4 - Hazardous Materials

9. Buses must never carry:

- Division 2.3 poison gas, liquid Class 6 poison, tear gas, irritating material.
- More than 100 pounds of solid Class 6 poisons.
- Explosives in the space occupied by people, except small arms ammunition.
- Labeled radioactive materials in the space occupied by people.
- More than 500 pounds total of allowed hazardous materials, and no more than 100 pounds of any one class.

4 - Forbidden Hazardous Materials

10. If the aisle is on a lower level than the seats:

- Remind riders of the step-down.
- It is best to tell them before coming to a complete stop.

4 - At Your Destination



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

11. When inspecting the interior of the bus, the following parts of your bus must be in safe working condition:

- Each handhold and railing.
- Floor covering.
- Signaling devices, including the restroom emergency buzzer, if the bus has a restroom.
- Emergency exit handles.

4 - Inspecting Bus Interior

12. At railroad crossings:

- Stop your bus between 15 and 50 feet before railroad crossings.
- Listen and look in both directions for trains. You should open your forward door if it improves your ability to see or hear an approaching train.
- Before crossing after a train has passed, make sure there isn't another train coming in the other direction on other tracks.
- If your bus has a manual transmission, never change gears while crossing the tracks.

4 - Railroad-highway Crossings Stops

13. When conducting a vehicle safety inspection, you should only sign the previous driver's report if:

- Defects reported earlier have been certified as repaired or not needed to be repaired.

Vehicle Inspection

14. If your speed is too high on a curve:

- With good traction, the bus may roll over.
- With poor traction, it might slide off the curve.

4 - Speed on Curves

15. Materials that are hazardous can be identified using the:

- Federal Hazardous Materials Table.

4 - Hazardous Materials

16. To prevent possible injury to passengers:

- Wait for them to sit down or brace themselves before starting.
- Starting and stopping should be as smooth as possible.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

4 - At Stops

17. If they get off the bus, remind riders to:

- Take carry-ons with them.

4 - At Your Destination

18. Make sure these things are in good working order before driving:

- Service brakes, including air hose couplings (if your bus has a trailer or semitrailer).
- Parking brake.
- Steering mechanism.
- Lights and reflectors.
- Tires (front wheels must not have recapped or regrooved tires).
- Horn.
- Windshield wiper or wipers.
- Rear-vision mirror or mirrors.
- Coupling devices (if present).
- Wheels and rims.
- Emergency equipment.

4 - Inspecting Vehicle Systems

19. There are _____ different four-inch, diamond-shaped hazard labels.

- Nine

4 - Hazardous Materials

20. To prevent theft or vandalism of the bus:

- Charter bus drivers should not allow riders on the bus until departure time.

4 - At Your Destination

21. When arriving at the destination or intermediate stops announce:

- The location.
- Reason for stopping.
- Next departure time.
- Bus number.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

4 - At Your Destination

22. Before the trip begins, mention rules about:

- Smoking.
- Drinking.
- Use of radio and tape players.

4 - On the Road - Passenger Supervision

23. When scanning the interior of the bus, you may have to:

- Remind riders about rules, or to keep arms and heads inside the bus.

4 - On the Road - Passenger Supervision

24. When approaching a drawbridge, you do not need to stop, but must slow down and make sure it's safe, when:

- There is a traffic light showing green.
- The bridge has an attendant or traffic officer who controls traffic whenever the bridge opens.

4 - Drawbridges

25. Urban mass transit coaches may have a:

- Brake and accelerator interlock system.

4 - Use of Brake-door Interlocks

26. Do not allow riders to leave carry-on baggage in:

- A doorway or aisle.

4 - Loading and Trip Start

27. If you must discharge a drunk or disruptive rider:

- Don't discharge such riders where it would be unsafe.
- It may be safer at the next scheduled stop or a well-lighted area where there are other people.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

4 - At Stops

28. The brake and accelerator interlock system:

- Applies the brakes and holds the throttle in idle position when the rear door is open.

4 - Use of Brake-door Interlocks

29. Hazardous materials can pose a risk to:

- Health, safety, and property during transportation.

4 - Hazardous Materials

30. Never drive with an:

- Open emergency exit door or window.

4 - Inspecting Bus Interior

31. While driving, scan the:

- Interior of your bus.
- Road ahead.
- Sides.
- Rear.

4 - On the Road - Passenger Supervision

32. Do not allow riders to carry on common hazards such as:

- Car batteries or gasoline.

4 - Forbidden Hazardous Materials

33. If you work for an interstate carrier, you must complete a written inspection report for:

- Each bus driven.

4 - After-trip Vehicle Inspection

34. At night or any other time you use your outside lights, you must turn on the:

- Red emergency door light.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

4 - Inspecting Bus Interior

35. The rules require shippers to mark containers of hazardous material with the material's:

- Name.
- Identification number.
- Hazard label.

4 - Hazardous Materials

36. When approaching curves:

- Reduce your speed.

4 - Speed on Curves

37. Some hazardous materials that buses may carry include:

- Small-arms ammunition labeled ORM-D.
- Emergency hospital supplies and drugs.

4 - Forbidden Hazardous Materials

38. Do not use the brake and accelerator interlock system:

- In place of the parking brake.

4 - Use of Brake-door Interlocks

39. A two inch line on the floor showing riders where they cannot stand is called the:

- Standee line - All standing riders must stay behind it.

4 - Standee Line

40. When inspecting the interior of the bus, ensure that:

- The "Emergency Exit" sign on an emergency door is clearly visible.
- The red emergency door light works.

4 - Inspecting Bus Interior

41. If a drawbridge does not have a signal light or traffic control attendant, you must:

- Stop at least 50 feet before the draw of the bridge.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

- Look to make sure the draw is completely closed before crossing.

4 - Drawbridges

42. You must stop at drawbridges that do not have:

- A signal light or traffic control attendant.

4 - Drawbridges

43. If your bus has emergency roof hatches:

- You may lock some emergency roof hatches in a partly open position for fresh air.
- Do not leave them open as a regular practice.
- Keep in mind the bus's higher clearance while driving with them open.

4 - Roof Hatches

44. Bus drivers must have a commercial driver license if they drive a vehicle designed to seat more than:

- 16 or more persons, including the driver.

4 - Transporting Passengers Safely

45. The after trip vehicle inspection must:

- Specify each bus.
- List any defect that would affect safety or result in a breakdown.
- Specify if there are no defects.

4 - After-trip Vehicle Inspection

46. When pulling out from a stop and merging with other traffic:

- Wait for the gap to open before leaving the stop.
- Never assume other drivers will brake to give you room when you signal or start to pull out.

4 - Common Accidents

47. Secure baggage and freight in ways that avoid damage and:

- Allow the driver to move freely and easily.
- Allow riders to exit by any window or door in an emergency.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS SAFELY CHEAT SHEET

- **Protect riders from injury if carry-ons fall or shift.**

4 - Loading and Trip Start

48. During the after trip inspection, mass transit drivers should make sure the following devices are working properly:

- **Passenger signaling devices.**
- **Brake door interlocks.**

4 - After-trip Vehicle Inspection

49. Buses designed to allow standing must have a:

- **Two-inch line on the floor or some other means of showing riders where they cannot stand.**

4 - Standee Line



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at:
www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. Dollies manufactured on or after March 1, 1998 are required to have a yellow Antilock Braking Systems (ABS) malfunction lamp:

- On the left side.

5 – Antilock Braking Systems (ABS)

2. If dual air system warning light and buzzer should come on while driving, you should:

- Stop right away, safely park the vehicle, and have the air brakes system fixed.

5 – Dual Air Brake

3. If the air pressure fails, a heavily loaded vehicle will take a long distance to stop because the spring brakes:

- Do not work on all axles.

5 – Low Air Pressure

4. While waiting for air pressure to build up in a dual air system:

- Pay attention to the low air pressure warning light and buzzer.

5 – Dual Air Brake





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

5. The manual adjustment of an automatic adjuster to bring a brake pushrod stroke within legal limits is:

- Generally masking a mechanical problem and is not fixing it.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

6. Use the parking brakes:

- Whenever you park.

5 – Parking Brake Controls

7. On newer model vehicles, the parking brake will be a:

- Yellow, diamond-shaped knob labeled "parking brakes."

5 – Parking Brakes

8. To reduce the risk of ice in air brake valves and other parts during cold weather:

- Some air brake systems have an alcohol evaporator to put alcohol into the air system.

5 – Alcohol Evaporator

9. When the spring brakes come on, lightly loaded vehicles or vehicles on slippery roads may:

- Skid out of control.

5 – Low Air Pressure

10. If the air brake system has an alcohol evaporator, the tanks should be drained:

- Daily, to get rid of water and oil unless the system has automatic drain valves.

5 – Alcohol Evaporator

11. When only the trailer has ABS, the trailer is less likely to swing out, but if you lose steering control or start a tractor jackknife:

- Let up on the brakes (if you can safely do so) until you gain control.

5 – Braking with Antilock Brakes



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

12. In vehicles with Anti-lock Braking Systems (ABS), wheel lock up is avoided by:

- A computer that senses impending wheel lock-up and reducing the braking pressure to a safe level, allowing you to maintain control.

5 – Braking with Antilock Brakes

13. Emergency brakes and parking brakes must be held on by:

- Mechanical force (because air pressure can eventually leak away).

5 – Spring Brakes

14. To determine if your vehicle is equipped with Antilock Braking Systems (ABS):

- Check the certification label for the date of manufacture.

5 – Antilock Braking Systems (ABS)

15. If the compressor has its own oil supply:

- Check the oil level before driving.

5 – Air Compressor

16. Having ABS on only the tractor, only the trailer, or even on only one axle:

- Still gives you more control over the vehicle during braking.

5 – Braking with Antilock Brakes

17. The action of the brakes shoes and linings inside the brake drum:

- Causes friction, which slows the vehicle, and creates heat.

5 – Foundation Brakes

18. Releasing the brakes:

- Lets some compressed air go out of the system, so the air pressure in the tanks is reduced.

5 – The Brake Pedal



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

19. On a long and/or steep downgrade, with the vehicle in the proper gear, use the following braking technique:

- Apply the brakes just hard enough to feel a definite slowdown.
- When your speed has been reduced to approximately five mph below your "safe" speed, release the brakes. (this application should last for about three seconds).
- When your speed has increased to your "safe" speed, repeat steps 1 and 2.

5 – Proper Braking Technique

20. If the vehicle has a dual air brake system, there will be a gauge:

- For each half of the system, or;
- A single gauge with two needles.

5 – Supply Pressure Gauges

21. Air storage tanks are used to:

- Hold compressed air.

5 – Air Storage Tanks

22. To use the parking brakes:

- Pull the parking brake control knob out to apply the parking brakes, push it in to release.

5 – Parking Brakes

23. To use a "controlled braking" maneuver:

- Keep steering wheel movements very small.
- If you need to make a larger steering adjustment or if the wheels lock, release the brakes.
- Re-apply the brakes as soon as you can.

5 – Emergency Stops

24. Manual adjustment of slack adjusters is dangerous because:

- It can give the operator a false sense of security about the effectiveness of the braking system.

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

25. Tractor and straight truck spring brakes will come fully on when air pressure drops to a range of:

- 20 to 45 psi (typically 20 to 30 psi).



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

5 – Spring Brakes

26. The device that drops a mechanical arm into your view when the pressure in the system drops below 60 psi is known as a:

- **Wig wag.**

5 – Low Air Pressure Warning

27. The air compressor is connected to the engine through:

- **Gears or a v-belt.**

5 – Air Compressor

28. To test the parking brake:

- **Stop the vehicle and put the parking brake on.**
- **Gently pull against it in a low gear to test that the parking brake will hold.**

5 – Step 7 Final Air Brake Check

29. To test the Service Brakes:

- **Wait for normal air pressure.**
- **Release the parking brake.**
- **Move the vehicle forward slowly (about five mph).**
- **Apply the brakes firmly using the brake pedal.**
- **Note any vehicle "pulling" to one side, unusual feel, or delayed stopping action.**

5 – Step 7 Final Air Brake Check

30. To check that Spring Brakes come on automatically:

- **Continue to fan off the air pressure by stepping on and off the brake pedal to reduce tank pressure.**
- **The tractor protection valve and parking brake valve should close (pop out) on a tractor-trailer combination vehicle.**
- **The parking brake valve should close (pop out) on other combination and single vehicle types.**
- **When the air pressure falls to the manufacturer's specification (20 – 45 psi). This will cause the spring brakes to come on.**

5 – Step 7 Final Air Brake Check

31. Antilock Braking Systems (ABS) is a computerized system that:

- **Keeps your wheels from locking up during hard brake applications.**



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

5 – Antilock Braking Systems (ABS)

32. When you drive a tractor-trailer combination with ABS, you should brake as you always have; in other words:

- Use only the braking force necessary to stop safely and stay in control.
- Brake the same way, regardless of whether you have ABS on the tractor, the trailer, or both.
- As you slow down, monitor your tractor and trailer and back off the brakes (if it is safe to do so) to stay in control.

5 – Braking with Antilock Brakes

33. The amount of air pressure in the tanks is indicated by a:

- Pressure gauge connected to the air tank.

5 – Supply Pressure Gauges

34. The other dual air brake system operates:

- The regular brakes on the front axle (and possibly one rear axle).

5 – Dual Air Brake

35. Drivers behind you are warned that you are applying your brakes through use of:

- An electric switch that works by air pressure that turns on the brake lights when you put on the air brakes.

5 – Stop Light Switch

36. To check air brakes during Step 5 of the walk-around Inspection, check Slack Adjusters on S-cam brakes by:

- Parking on level ground and chocking the wheels to prevent the vehicle from moving.
- Release the parking brakes so you can move the slack adjusters.
- Using gloves, pull hard on each slack adjuster that you can reach.

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

37. Letting up on the brake pedal:

- Reduces the air pressure and releases the brakes.

5 – The Brake Pedal

38. Wedge brakes and disc brakes are:

- Less common than s-cam brakes.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

5 – Foundation Brakes

39. Vehicles with Antilock Braking Systems (ABS) have _____ to tell you if something isn't working.

- **Yellow malfunction lamps**

5 – Antilock Braking Systems (ABS)

40. There is only enough air in the separate tank to:

- **Release the spring brakes a few times.**

5 – Parking Brake Controls

41. An air compressor governor that does not work properly:

- **May not keep enough air pressure for safe driving and needs to be fixed.**

5 – Step 7 Final Air Brake Check

42. The second dual airbrake system is called the:

- **"Secondary" system.**

5 – Dual Air Brake

43. The wig wag type of warning system will drop a mechanical arm into your view when pressure in the system falls below:

- **60 psi.**

5 – Low Air Pressure Warning

44. When air pressure to the brake system is removed:

- **The brakes are applied through spring pressure.**

5 – Spring Brakes

45. To test the air leakage rate:

- **Charge the air system fully (typically 125 psi),**
- **Turn off the engine**
- **Release the parking brake, and time the air pressure drop.**



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

- Apply 90 psi or more with the brake pedal.
- After the initial pressure drop, if the air pressure falls more than three psi in one minute for single vehicles (more than four psi for combination vehicles), the air loss rate is too much.

5 – Step 7 Final Air Brake Check

46. A warning signal you can see must come on before the air pressure in the tanks falls below:

- 60 psi. or;
- One half the compressor governor cutout pressure on older vehicles.

5 – Low Air Pressure Warning

47. The amount of air pumped into the storage tanks is controlled by the:

- Governor.

5 – Air Compressor Governor

48. One of the dual parking control valves is a push-pull type and is used to:

- Put on the spring brakes for parking.

5 – Parking Brake Controls

49. If you always drive a straight truck or combination with working ABS on all axles:

- You can fully apply the brakes in an emergency stop.

5 – Braking with Antilock Brakes

50. If a slack adjuster moves more than about _____ where the push rod attaches to it, it probably needs adjustment.

- One inch

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

51. Brake drums are located:

- On each end of the vehicle's axles.

5 – Foundation Brakes

52. Pushing the brake pedal down when the spring brakes are on:

- Could damage the brakes by the combined forces of the springs and the air pressure.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

5 – Parking Brake Controls

53. Before driving a vehicle with a dual air system, allow time for the air compressor to build up a minimum of:

- **100 psi pressure in both the primary and secondary systems.**

5 – Dual Air Brake

54. To check Air Compressor Governor Cut-out pressures:

- **Check the manufacturer's specifications (generally the compressor should start pumping at 100 psi and stop at 125 psi).**
- **Run the engine at fast idle.**
- **Watch the air pressure gauge.**
- **The governor should cut out at about the manufacturer's specifications and the air pressure shown by the gauge will stop rising.**

5 – Step 7 Final Air Brake Check

55. The _____ should only be used as a temporary measure to correct the adjustment in an emergency situation as it is likely the brake will soon be back out of adjustment since this procedure usually does not fix the underlying adjustment problem.

- **Manual adjustment of an automatic adjuster**

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

56. The first dual air brake system is called the:

- **"Primary" system.**

5 – Dual Air Brake

57. If the brakes are not adjusted properly:

- **Neither the regular brakes nor the emergency/parking brakes will work right.**

5 – Spring Brakes

58. A leak in the air brake system which causes all the air to be lost:

- **Will also cause the springs to put on the brakes.**

5 – Spring Brakes

59. Don't use the parking brakes if:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

- The brakes are very hot (from just having come down a steep grade), or;
- The brakes are very wet in freezing temperatures.

5 – Parking Brakes

60. The _____ pumps air into the air storage tanks (reservoirs).

- Air compressor

5 – Air Compressor

61. Brakes out of adjustment will _____ before those that are in adjustment.

- Stop doing their share

5 – Brake Fading or Failure

62. The most common type of foundation brake is the:

- S-cam drum brake.

5 – Foundation Brakes

63. A gauge that shows how much air pressure you are applying to the brakes is called an:

- Application gauge.

5 – Application Pressure Gauge

64. Water and oil in the air brake system tend to collect:

- In the bottom of the air tank.

5 – Air Tank Drains

65. Brake fade results from:

- Excessive heat causing chemical changes in the brake lining, which reduce friction, and also causing expansion of the brake drums.

5 – Brake Fading or Failure

66. All vehicles built since _____ have automatic slack adjustors.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

- 1994

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

67. In vehicles equipped with air brakes, brake lag is:

- The time required for the brakes to work after the brake pedal is pushed.

5 – Stopping Distance

68. Brake linings (friction material) must not be:

- Loose.
- Soaked with oil or grease.
- Dangerously thin.

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

69. To use the “stab braking” maneuver:

- Apply your brakes all the way.
- Release brakes when wheels lock up.
- As soon as the wheels start rolling, apply the brakes fully again.

5 – Emergency Stops

70. Most heavy-duty vehicles use _____ for safety.

- Dual air brake systems

5 – Dual Air Brake

71. With a modulating valve lever:

- The more you move the control lever, the harder the spring brakes come on so you can control the spring brakes if the service brakes fail.

5 – Parking Brake Controls

72. Let hot brakes cool before:

- Using the parking brakes.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

5 – Parking Brakes

73. All trucks, truck tractors, and buses must be equipped with:

- **Emergency brakes and parking brakes.**

5 – Spring Brakes

74. The parts of an air brake system include:

- **Service brake system.**
- **Parking brake system.**
- **Emergency brake system.**

5 - Air Brakes

75. To prevent oil and water damage to the air brake system:

- **The driver must drain the air tanks completely.**

5 – Air Tank Drains

76. If the brakes are wet:

- **Use the brakes lightly while driving in a low gear to heat and dry them.**

5 – Parking Brakes

77. The dual air system warning light and buzzer should come on before the air pressure drops below:

- **60 psi in either system.**

5 – Dual Air Brake

78. Any time you park:

- **Use the parking brakes (unless they are very hot).**

5 – Parking Brakes

79. Vehicles equipped with a front brake limiting valve usually have a control marked:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

- "Normal" and "Slippery."

5 – Front Brake Limiting Valve

80. Increased application pressure to hold the same speed could be caused by:

- Brakes out of adjustment.
- Air leaks.
- Mechanical problems.

5 – Application Pressure Gauge

81. If the pressure in the air brake system gets too low:

- The brakes won't work.

5 – The Brake Pedal

82. Even though automatic slack adjustors _____, they must be checked.

- Adjust themselves during full brake applications

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

83. If your vehicle is equipped with a front brake limiting valve:

- Make sure the control is in the "normal" position to have normal stopping power, even in icy conditions.

5 – Front Brake Limiting Valve

84. If your vehicle does not have automatic air tank drains:

- Drain your air tanks at the end of each working day to remove moisture and oil; otherwise, the brakes could fail.

5 – Parking Brakes

85. When brakes equipped with automatic adjusters are found to be out of adjustment:

- Take the vehicle to a repair facility as soon as possible to have the problem corrected.

5 – During Step 5 Walkaround Inspection

86. Each dual air brake system has:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

- Its own air tanks, hoses, lines, etc.

5 – Dual Air Brake

87. There are two types of air tank drain valves:

- Manually operated.
- Automatic.

5 – Air Tank Drains

88. On older model vehicles, the parking brake may be a:

- Round blue knob or some other shape (including a lever that swings from side to side or up and down).

5 – Parking Brakes

89. Antilock Braking Systems (ABS) do not necessarily:

- Shorten your stopping distance but it does help you keep the vehicle under control during hard braking.

5 – Antilock Braking Systems (ABS)

90. Pushing the pedal down harder:

- Applies more air pressure to the brakes.

5 – The Brake Pedal

91. Parking brakes allow the driver to:

- Let the air out of spring brakes allowing the spring to hold the brakes.

5 – Spring Brakes

92. Pressing and releasing the pedal unnecessarily can:

- Let air out faster than the compressor can replace it.

5 – The Brake Pedal

93. Tests have shown front wheel skids from braking are:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL AIR BRAKE CHEAT SHEET

- Not likely, even on ice.

5 – Front Brake Limiting Valve

94. In cold weather the air brake alcohol evaporator must be checked and refilled:

- Every day.

5 – Alcohol Evaporator

95. On older vehicles, the parking brakes may be controlled by:

- A lever.

5 – Parking Brake Controls

96. Both dual air brake systems supply air to:

- The trailer (if there is one).

5 – Dual Air Brake

97. The air brake lag distance at 55 mph on dry pavement adds about:

- 32 feet.

5 – Stopping Distance

98. Water in the air brake system can:

- Freeze in cold weather and cause brake failure.

5 – Air Tank Drains

99. Each air tank is equipped with a drain valve:

- In the bottom of the tank.

5 – Air Tank Drains



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at: www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. To test the service brakes on a combination vehicle:

- Check for normal air pressure.
- Release the parking brakes, move the vehicle forward slowly, and apply trailer brakes with the hand control (trolley valve), if so equipped.
- You should feel the brakes come on.

6 – Combination Vehicle Brake Check

2. The "crack-the-whip" effect that causes trailers to overturn is also known as:

- "Rearward amplification."

6 – Steer Gently

3. Valves that permit closing the air lines off when another trailer is not being towed are called:

- Shut-off valves (also called cut-out cocks).

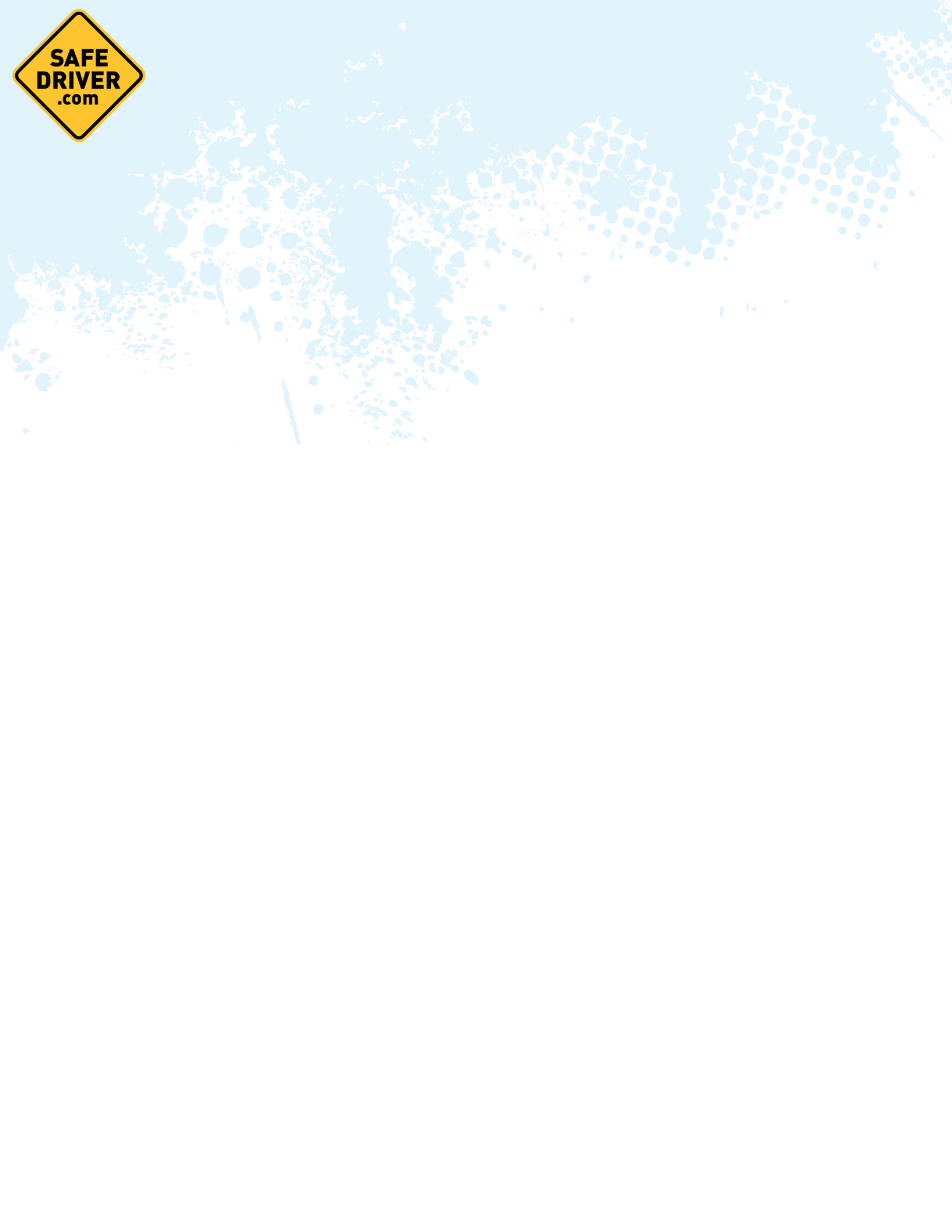
6 – Shut-off Valves

4. The trailer air supply control is used to:

- Control the tractor protection valve.

6 – Trailer Air Supply Control







DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

5. Before uncoupling a trailer from a tractor, unlock the fifth wheel by:

- Raising the release handle lock.
- Pulling the release handle to the "open" position.
- Keeping legs and feet clear of the rear tractor wheels to avoid serious injury in case the vehicle moves.

6 – Uncoupling Tractor-Semitrailers

6. The trailer air supply control valve allows you to:

- Open and shut the tractor protection valve.

6 – Tractor Protection Valve

7. A turn of the glad hand attached to the hose couplings between vehicles:

- Will join and lock the couplers.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

8. The tractor protection valve keeps air in the tractor or truck brake system in case:

- The trailer should break away or develop a bad leak.

6 – Tractor Protection Valve

9. The "emergency" position on older vehicle emergency control levers is used:

- To shut the air off and put on the trailer emergency brakes.

6 – Trailer Air Supply Control

10. When you drive a tractor-trailer combination with anti-lock brakes (ABS):

- Use only the braking force necessary to stop safely and stay in control.
- Brake the same way, regardless of whether you have ABS on the tractor, the trailer, or both.
- As you slow down, monitor your tractor and trailer and back off the brakes (if it is safe to do so) to stay in control.

6 – Braking with ABS

11. When a vehicle goes around a corner:

- The rear wheels follow a different path than the front wheels.

6 – Turn Wide



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

12. The earliest and best way to recognize that the trailer has started to skid is by:

- Seeing it in your mirrors.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids

13. After the trailer is locked onto the tractor, secure the vehicle by:

- Putting the transmission in neutral.
- Putting the parking brakes on.
- Shutting off the engine and take the key with you so someone else won't move truck while you are under it.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

14. The trailer air supply control on newer vehicles is a:

- Red, eight-sided knob.

6 – Trailer Air Supply Control

15. In place of parking brakes, converter dollies and trailers that do not have spring brakes have emergency brakes that come on:

- Whenever the air supply knob is pulled out or the trailer is disconnected.

6 – Trailer Service, Parking and Emergency Brakes

16. When only the trailer has anti-lock brakes (ABS):

- The trailer is less likely to swing out, but if you lose steering control or start a tractor jackknife, let up on the brakes (if you can safely do so) until you regain control.

6 – Braking with ABS

17. Use the dummy couplers when:

- The air lines are not connected to a trailer.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

18. In a trailer jackknife situation, once the brakes are released and the trailer wheels grip the road again:

- The trailer will start to follow the tractor and straighten out.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

19. Using the trailer handbrake to straighten out the rig in a trailer jackknife situation is:

- The wrong thing to do since the brakes on the trailer wheels caused the skid in the first place.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids

20. When uncoupling a trailer from a tractor, you must use the following steps:

- Step 1. - Position Rig.
- Step 2. - Ease Pressure on Locking Jaws.
- Step 3. - Chock Trailer Wheels.
- Step 4. - Lower the Landing Gear.
- Step 5. - Disconnect Air Lines and Electrical Cable.
- Step 6. - Unlock Fifth Wheel.
- Step 7. - Pull Tractor Partially Clear of Trailer.
- Step 8. - Secure Tractor.
- Step 9. - Inspect Trailer Supports.
- Step 10. - Pull Tractor Clear of Trailer.

6 – Uncoupling Tractor-Semitrailers

21. Every combination vehicle has two air lines:

- The service line and;
- The emergency line.

6 – Trailer Air Lines

22. Shut-off valves (also called cut-out cocks) are used in the:

- Service and supply air lines at the back of trailers used to tow other trailers.

6 – Shut-off Valves

23. Each trailer and converter dolly has one or more air tanks that are filled by the:

- Emergency (supply) line from the tractor.

6 – Trailer Air Tanks

24. To set up your combination vehicle to check airflow to all trailers:

- Use the tractor parking brake and/or chock the wheels to hold the vehicle.
- Wait for air pressure to reach normal, then push in the red "trailer air supply" knob.
- Use the trailer handbrake to provide air to the service line.

6 – Combination Vehicle Brake Check



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

25. When coupling a tractor to a trailer, back under the trailer:

- Using lowest reverse gear.
- Slowly to avoid hitting the kingpin too hard.
- And stop when the kingpin is locked into the fifth wheel.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

26. After the trailer is locked onto the tractor, connect the electrical cord and check air lines by:

- Plugging the electrical cord into the trailer and fasten the safety catch.
- Checking both air lines and electrical line for signs of damage.
- Making sure air and electrical lines will not hit any moving parts of vehicle.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

27. You pull out the trailer air supply control knob to:

- Shut off the trailer air supply and put on the trailer emergency brakes.

6 – Trailer Air Supply Control

28. Never use the hand valve for parking because:

- All the air might leak out unlocking the brakes (in trailers that don't have spring brakes).

6 – Trailer Hand Valve

29. When the trailer's wheels lock up and swing into the other lane, this is known as a:

- Trailer jackknife.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids

30. If your tanks have automatic drains, they will keep most moisture out however:

- You should still open the drains every day to make sure.

6 – Trailer Air Tanks

31. It is very important for safety that you use wheel chocks when you park trailers without spring brakes because:

- Eventually, air pressure in the trailer air tank(s) will leak away and then there will be no brakes.

6 – Trailer Service, Parking and Emergency Brakes



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

32. To get traction back if the trailer starts to swing into the other lane:

- Release the brakes.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids

33. Railroad-highway crossings can also cause problems, particularly when pulling trailers with low underneath clearance because:

- Those trailers can get stuck on raised crossings.

6 – Railroad-highway Crossings

34. If you mistakenly cross the emergency and service air lines on older vehicles without spring brakes:

- You could drive away but you wouldn't have trailer brakes.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

35. The procedure for stopping a trailer skid or jackknife is to:

- Recognize the Skid.
- Stop Using the Brake.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids

36. "Bobtail" tractors (tractors without semitrailers):

- Take longer to stop than a tractor-semitrailer loaded to maximum gross weight.

6 – Brake Early

37. Trailers will have yellow anti-lock brake (ABS) malfunction lamps located:

- On the left side, either on the front or rear corner.

6 – Trailers Required to Have ABS

38. When coupling a tractor to a trailer, check connections for security by:

- Raising the trailer landing gear slightly off ground.
- Pulling the tractor gently forward while the trailer brakes are still locked to check that the trailer is locked onto the tractor.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

39. When going around a corner, you must steer so that the rear end does not run over the curb, pedestrians, etc. however, you must steer the rear of the vehicle as close to the curb as possible so that:

- Other drivers won't try to pass you on the right.

6 – Turn Wide

40. When backing your vehicle:

- Check the outside mirrors on both sides frequently.

6 – Backing with a Trailer.

41. There is much less danger of _____ when using just the foot brake.

- Causing a skid or jackknife

6 – Trailer Hand Valve

42. When lightly loaded, the very stiff suspension springs and strong brakes:

- Give poor traction and make it very easy to lock up the wheels.

6 – Brake Early

43. Before backing your vehicle:

- Look at your line of travel before you begin.
- Get out and walk around the vehicle.
- Check your clearance to the sides and overhead, in and near the path your vehicle.

6 – Backing with a Trailer.

44. To test the emergency brakes on a combination vehicle:

- Charge the trailer air brake system and check that the trailer rolls freely.
- Stop and pull out the trailer air supply control (also called tractor protection valve control or trailer emergency valve), or place it in the "emergency" position.
- Pull gently on the trailer with the tractor to check that the trailer emergency brakes are on.

6 – Combination Vehicle Brake Check



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

45. When coupling a trailer to a tractor, you must use the following steps:

- Step 1. - Inspect Fifth Wheel.
- Step 2. - Inspect Area and Chock Wheels.
- Step 3. - Position Tractor.
- Step 4. - Back Slowly.
- Step 5. - Secure Tractor.
- Step 6. - Check Trailer Height.
- Step 7. - Connect Air Lines to Trailer.
- Step 8. - Supply Air to Trailer.
- Step 9. - Lock Trailer Brakes.
- Step 10. - Back Under Trailer.
- Step 11. - Check Connection for Security.
- Step 12. - Secure Vehicle.
- Step 13. - Inspect Coupling.
- Step 14. - Connect the Electrical Cord and Check Air Lines.
- Step 15. - Raise Front Trailer Supports (Landing Gear).
- Step 16. - Remove Trailer Wheel Chocks.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

46. When performing a pre-trip inspection on combination vehicle coupling system areas, check the sliding fifth wheel to ensure:

- The slide isn't damaged or parts are missing.
- It is properly greased.
- All locking pins are present and locked in place.
- If air powered--no air leaks.
- That the fifth wheel is not so far forward that tractor frame will hit landing gear, or the cab hit the trailer, during turns.

6 – Additional Things to Check During a Walkaround Inspection

47. Before coupling a tractor to a trailer, check the trailer height:

- The trailer should be low enough that it is raised slightly by the tractor when the tractor is backed under it.
- Raise or lower the trailer as needed. (If the trailer is too low, the tractor may strike and damage the trailer nose; if the trailer is too high, it may not couple correctly.)
- Check that the kingpin and fifth wheel are aligned.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

48. The trailer air brakes may not work correctly if:

- Water and oil build up in the air tanks.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

6 – Trailer Air Tanks

49. Always test the trailer brakes before driving with:

- The hand valve or by pulling the air supply (tractor protection valve) control.
- Pull gently against them in a low gear to make sure the brakes work.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

50. During the test of airflow to all trailers, if you do NOT hear air escaping from both lines:

- Check that the shut-off valves on the trailer(s) and dolly(ies) are in the OPEN position.

6 – Combination Vehicle Brake Check

51. A major leak in the emergency line will cause the tractor protection valve to:

- Close and the trailer emergency brakes to come on.

6 – Trailer Service, Parking and Emergency Brakes

52. Before coupling a tractor to a trailer, to supply air to the trailer:

- From cab, push in "air supply" knob or move tractor protection valve control from the "emergency" to the "normal" position to supply air to the trailer brake system.
- Wait until the air pressure is normal.
- Check brake system for crossed air lines.
- When you are sure trailer brakes are working, start engine.
- Make sure air pressure is up to normal.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

53. If for any reason you get stuck on railroad tracks:

- Get out of the vehicle and away from the tracks.
- Check signposts or signal housing at the crossing for emergency notification information.
- Call 911 or other emergency number.
- Give the location of the crossing using all identifiable landmarks, especially the DOT number, if posted.

6 – Railroad-highway Crossings

54. You push in the trailer air supply control knob to:

- Supply the trailer with air.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

6 – Trailer Air Supply Control

55. If the spring brakes don't release when you push the trailer air supply control:

- Check the air line connections.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

56. When coupling a tractor to a trailer, never back under the trailer at an angle because:

- You might push the trailer sideways and break the landing gear.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

57. Before coupling a tractor to a trailer, check the brake system for crossed air lines by:

- Shutting the engine off so you can hear the brakes.
- Apply and release trailer brakes and listen for sound of trailer brakes being applied and released. You should hear the brakes move when applied and air escape when the brakes are released.
- Check the air brake system pressure gauge for signs of major air loss.

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

58. When backing a trailer, you turn the steering wheel:

- In the opposite of the direction you want to go.

6 – Backing with a Trailer

59. When performing brake checks on combination vehicles you must:

- Check That Air Flows to All Trailers.
- Test Tractor Protection Valve.
- Test Trailer Emergency Brakes.
- Test Trailer Service Brakes.

6 – Combination Vehicle Brake Check

60. The trailer and converter dolly air tanks provide pressure to operate:

- The trailer and converter dolly brakes.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

6 – Trailer Air Tanks

61. Any time you apply the brakes hard:

- Check the mirrors to make sure the trailer is staying where it should be.

6 – Prevent Trailer Skids

62. Before uncoupling a trailer from the tractor, to position the rig:

- Make sure the surface of parking area can support weight of trailer.
- Have the tractor lined up with the trailer. (Pulling out at an angle can damage landing gear.)

6 – Uncoupling Tractor-Semitrailers

63. After chocking the trailer wheels and before uncoupling a trailer from the tractor:

- If trailer is empty, lower the landing gear until it makes firm contact with the ground.
- If trailer is loaded, after the landing gear makes firm contact with the ground, turn crank in low gear a few extra turns. This will lift some weight off the tractor. (Do not lift trailer off the fifth wheel.) This will:
 - Make it easier to unlatch fifth wheel.
 - Make it easier to couple next time.

6 – Uncoupling Tractor-Semitrailers

64. If your anti-lock brakes (ABS) malfunction:

- You still have regular brakes; drive normally, but get the system serviced soon.

6 – Braking with ABS

65. Tractor protection valve controls or "emergency" valves on older vehicles:

- May not operate automatically.

6 – Trailer Air Supply Control

66. When performing a pre-trip inspection on combination vehicle coupling system areas, check the air and electric lines to ensure:

- Electrical cord firmly plugged in and secured.
- Air lines properly connected to glad hands, no air leaks, properly secured with enough slack for turns.
- All lines free from damage.

6 – Additional Things to Check During a Walkaround Inspection

67. Emergency air lines are often coded with the color:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

- Red (red hose, red couplers, or other parts) to keep from getting them mixed up with the blue service line.

6 – Trailer Air Lines

68. Many trailers and converter dollies built before March 1, 1998:

- Have been voluntarily equipped with anti-lock brakes (ABS).

6 – Trailers Required to Have ABS

69. The rear wheels following a different path than the front wheels while going around a corner is known as:

- Off-tracking or "cheating."

6 – Turn Wide

70. Dollies manufactured on or after March 1, 1998, are required to have an anti-lock brake (ABS) malfunction lamp on the:

- Left side.

6 – Trailers Required to Have ABS

71. To test the tractor protection valve on a combination vehicle:

- Charge the trailer air brake system. (That is, build up normal air pressure and push the "air supply" knob in.)
- Shut the engine off.
- Step on and off the brake pedal several times to reduce the air pressure in the tanks.
- The trailer air supply control (also called the tractor protection valve control) should pop out (or go from "normal" to "emergency" position) when the air pressure falls into the pressure range specified by the manufacturer.

6 – Combination Vehicle Brake Check

72. Rollovers happen when you:

- Turn too fast.

6 – Rollover Risks

73. After the trailer is locked onto the tractor, when the full weight of the trailer is resting on the tractor:

- Check for enough clearance between rear of tractor frame and landing gear. (When tractor turns sharply, it must not hit landing gear.)
- Check that there is enough clearance between the top of the tractor tires and the nose of the trailer.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

74. The emergency air line between vehicles is also called the:

- **Supply line.**

6 – Trailer Air Lines

75. When lightly loaded, the very stiff suspension springs and strong brakes make it easy to lock up the wheels causing:

- **Your trailer to swing out and strike other vehicles.**
- **Your tractor to jackknife very quickly.**

6 – Brake Early

76. Before coupling a tractor to a trailer, inspect the area and chock the wheels by:

- **Making sure area around the vehicle is clear.**
- **Ensuring trailer wheels are chocked or spring brakes are on.**
- **Checking that cargo (if any) is secured against movement due to tractor being coupled to the trailer.**

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

77. Before coupling a tractor to a trailer, inspect the area and chock the wheels by:

- **Making sure area around the vehicle is clear.**
- **Ensuring trailer wheels are chocked or spring brakes are on.**
- **Checking that cargo (if any) is secured against movement due to tractor being coupled to the trailer.**

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

78. When backing your vehicle, back slowly so:

- **You can make corrections before you get too far off course.**

6 – Backing with a Trailer.

79. After the trailer is locked onto the tractor and all final checks have been made:

- **Remove and store wheel chocks in a safe place.**



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

6 – Coupling Tractor-Semitrailers

80. The service and emergency air lines:

- Run between each vehicle (tractor to trailer, trailer to dolly, dolly to second trailer, etc.)

6 – Trailer Air Lines

81. When parking a vehicle that does not have spring brakes:

- Use wheel chocks to keep the trailer from moving.

6 – Trailer Hand Valve

82. When backing a trailer:

- Make pull-ups to re-position your vehicle as needed.

6 – Backing with a Trailer.

83. The trailer hand valve that is used to work the trailer brakes is also called the:

- Trolley valve or Johnson bar.

6 – Trailer Hand Valve

84. When connecting the glad hands, press the two seals together with the couplers:

- At a 90 degree angle to each other.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

85. Depending on how hard you press the foot brake or hand valve, the pressure in the service line will:

- Change in a similar fashion.

6 – Trailer Air Lines

86. You must check that all shut-off valves (cut-out cocks) are in the open position except for:

- The ones at the back of the last trailer, which must be closed.

6 – Shut-off Valves

87. The service line is connected to relay valves that:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

- Allow the trailer brakes to be applied more quickly than would otherwise be possible.

6 – Trailer Air Lines

88. In the case of vehicles manufactured before March 1, 1998:

- It may be difficult to tell if the unit is equipped with anti-lock brakes (ABS).

6 – Trailers Required to Have ABS

89. After easing the pressure on the locking jaws and before uncoupling a trailer from the tractor:

- Chock the trailer wheels if the trailer doesn't have spring brakes or if you're not sure. (The air could leak out of the trailer air tank, releasing its emergency brakes. Without chocks, the trailer could move.)

6 – Uncoupling Tractor-Semitrailers

90. To avoid rollovers:

- Drive slowly around corners, on ramps, and off ramps.
- Avoid quick lane changes, especially when fully loaded.

6 – Rollover Risks

91. Anti-lock brakes (ABS) help you:

- Avoid wheel lock up.
- Keep the vehicle under control during hard braking.

6 – Braking with ABS

92. The emergency air line between vehicles serves two purposes:

- It supplies air to the trailer air tanks.
- It controls the emergency brakes on combination vehicles.

6 – Trailer Air Lines

93. Older trailers do not have spring brakes. If the air supply in the trailer air tank has leaked away:

- There will be no emergency brakes, and the trailer wheels will turn freely.

6 – Hose Couplers (Glad Hands)

94. Emergency brakes for converter dollies and trailers that do not have spring brakes come on:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL COMBINATION VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

- Whenever air pressure in the emergency line is lost.

6 – Trailer Service, Parking and Emergency Brakes

95. When the tractor protection valve closes:

- It stops any air from going out of the tractor.
- It also lets the air out of the trailer emergency line.

6 – Tractor Protection Valve

96. Each trailer and converter dolly has one or more:

- Air tanks.

6 – Trailer Air Tanks

97. Triples have a rearward amplification of 3.5; meaning:

- You can roll the last trailer of triples 3.5 times as easily as a five-axle tractor.

6 – Steer Gently

98. To prevent “rearward amplification” or the “crack-the-whip” effect:

- Steer gently and smoothly when you are pulling trailers.
- Follow far enough behind other vehicles.
- Look far enough down the road to avoid being surprised and having to make a sudden lane change.
- At night, drive slowly enough to see obstacles with your headlights before it is too late to change lanes or stop gently.
- Slow down to a safe speed before going into a turn.

6 – Steer Gently

99. When backing your vehicle, as soon as you see the trailer getting off the proper path:

- Correct it by turning the top of the steering wheel in the direction of the drift.

6 – Backing with a Trailer.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at: www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. Once the air pressure reaches the normal range you can provide air pressure to the service line by:

- Using the trailer handbrake.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

2. To uncouple the rear trailer:

- Park rig in a straight line on firm level ground.
- Apply parking brakes so rig won't move.
- Chock wheels of second trailer if it doesn't have spring brakes.
- Lower landing gear of second semitrailer enough to remove some weight from dolly.
- Close air shut-offs at rear of first semitrailer (and on dolly if so equipped).
- Disconnect all dolly air and electric lines and secure them.
- Release dolly brakes.
- Release converter dolly fifth wheel latch.
- Slowly pull tractor, first semitrailer, and dolly forward to pull dolly out from under rear semitrailer.

7 – Uncoupling Twin Trailers

3. When checking air flow to all trailers (double and triple), opening the emergency line shutoff valve at the rear of the last trailer should allow you to:

- Hear air escaping, showing the entire system is charged.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

4. Converter dollies are required to have antilock brakes if they were built on or after:

- March 1, 1998.

7 – Antilock Braking Systems on Converter Dollies

5. In bad weather, slippery conditions, and mountain driving, you must be especially careful:

- If you drive double and triple bottoms.

7 – Adverse Conditions

6. In bad weather, slippery conditions, and mountain driving:

- There is more chance for skids and loss of traction.

7 – Adverse Conditions

7. After checking airflow to the emergency brake lines, close the emergency line valve and open the service line valve to check that:

- Service pressure goes through all the trailers (this test assumes that the trailer handbrake or the service brake pedal is on).

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

8. To position the converter dolly in front of second (rear) trailer, if the distance is not too great:

- Wheel the dolly into position by hand so it is in line with the kingpin.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

9. A converter gear on a dolly is a:

- Coupling device of one or two axles and a fifth wheel by which a semitrailer can be coupled to the rear of a tractor-trailer combination forming a double bottom rig.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

10. If you do NOT hear air escaping from both the emergency and service lines at the rear of the last trailer:

- Check that the shut-off valves on the trailer(s) and dolly(ies) are in the OPEN position.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

11. To connect the converter dolly to rear trailer:

- Make sure trailer brakes are locked and/or wheels chocked.
- Make sure trailer height is correct. (It must be slightly lower than the center of the fifth wheel, so trailer is raised slightly when dolly is pushed under.)
- Back converter dolly under rear trailer.
- Raise landing gear slightly off ground to prevent damage if trailer moves.
- Test coupling by pulling against pin of the second semitrailer.
- Make visual check of coupling. (No space between upper and lower fifth wheel. Locking jaws closed on kingpin.)
- Connect safety chains, air hoses, and light cords.
- Close converter dolly air tank petcock and shutoff valves at rear of second trailer (service and emergency shut-offs).
- Open shut-off valves at rear of first trailer (and on dolly if so equipped).
- Raise landing gear completely.
- Charge trailer brakes (push "air supply" knob in), and check for air at rear of second trailer by opening the emergency line shut-off. If air pressure isn't there, something is wrong and the brakes won't work.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

12. When parking doubles and triples:

- You need to be aware of how parking lots are arranged in order to avoid a long and difficult escape.

7 – Parking the Vehicle

13. Doubles and triples are more likely to turn over than other combination vehicles because of:

- The "crack- the-whip" effect.

7 – Beware of the Crack-the-whip Effect

14. When coupling twin trailers, for the safest handling on the road:

- The more heavily loaded semitrailer should be in first position behind the tractor.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

15. After coupling the second and third trailers, uncouple the tractor, then:

- Couple tractor to first trailer; use the method already described for coupling tractor-semitrailers.
- Move converter dolly into position and couple first trailer to second trailer using the method for coupling doubles; triples rig is now complete.

7 – Coupling and Uncoupling Triple Trailers



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

16. A safe speed on a curve for a straight truck or a single trailer combination vehicle may be:

- Too fast for a set of doubles or triples.

7 – Prevent Trailer from Rolling Over

17. When checking air flow to all trailers (double and triple), opening the service valve at the end of the last trailer allows you to:

- Verify that service pressure goes through all trailers.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

18. Due to the "crack- the-whip" effect, the last trailer in a combination is:

- Most likely to turn over.

7 – Beware of the Crack-the-whip Effect

19. When coupling twin trailers, if you have any doubt about the brakes:

- Chock the wheels.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

20. When driving doubles and triples, you must:

- Allow more following distance.
- Make sure you have large enough gaps before entering or crossing traffic.
- Be certain you are clear at the sides before changing lanes.

7 – Manage Space

21. In slippery conditions, and mountain driving, double and triple trailers have:

- Greater length and more dead axles to pull with your drive axles than other drivers.

7 – Adverse Conditions

22. Once the air pressure reaches the normal range, you can supply air to the emergency (supply) lines by

- Pushing in the red "trailer air supply" knob.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

23. To understand the other ways of coupling and uncoupling the many types of truck-trailer and tractor-trailer combinations that are in use:

- You will need to learn the correct way to couple and uncouple the vehicle(s) you will drive according to the manufacturer and/or owner specifications.

7 – Coupling and Uncoupling Other Combinations

24. Never unlock the pintle hook with the dolly still under the rear trailer because:

- The dolly tow bar may fly up, possibly causing injury, and making it very difficult to re-couple.

7 – Uncoupling Twin Trailers

25. When coupling twin trailers that don't have spring brakes:

- Drive the tractor close to the trailer.
- Connect the emergency line.
- Charge the trailer air tank.
- Disconnect the emergency line.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

26. When performing a walk-around inspection on double and triple rig coupling systems, check that the fifth wheel (upper):

- Glide plate is securely mounted to trailer frame.
- Kingpin is not damaged.

7 – Additional Checks

27. You MUST have air all the way to the back of the last trailer:

- For all the brakes to work.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

28. To test the tractor protection valve, after reducing the tank air pressure by stepping on and off the brakes, the tractor protection valve control should pop out (from normal to emergency) when the air pressure falls:

- Usually within the range of 20 to 45 psi.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

29. When checking air flow to all trailers (double and triple), waiting for air pressure to reach normal and pushing in the red "trailer air supply" knob will supply air to:

- **The emergency (supply) lines.**

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

30. When testing the tractor protection valve, you can reduce air pressure in the tanks by:

- **Shutting the engine off and stepping on and off the brake pedal several times.**

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

31. When checking air flow to all trailers (double and triple), to ensure that the vehicle remains in place:

- **Use the tractor parking brake and/or chock the wheels to hold the vehicle.**

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

32. To couple second and third trailers, you must first:

- **Couple second and third trailers using the method for coupling doubles.**
- **Uncouple tractor and pull away from the second and third trailers.**

7 – Coupling and Uncoupling Triple Trailers

33. To test the trailer emergency brakes:

- **Charge the trailer air brake system and check that the trailer rolls freely.**
- **Stop and pull out the trailer air supply control (also called tractor protection valve control or trailer emergency valve) or place it in the "emergency" position.**
- **Pull gently on the trailer with the tractor to check that the trailer emergency brakes are on.**

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

34. When coupling twin trailers that don't have spring brakes, charging the trailer air tank, and disconnecting the emergency line will:

- **Set the trailer emergency brakes (if the slack adjusters are correctly adjusted).**

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

35. When coupling twin trailers, for the safest handling on the road:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL DOUBLES AND TRIPLES CHEAT SHEET

- The lighter trailer should be in the rear.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

36. When checking air flow to all trailers (double and triple), if you hear air escaping after opening the emergency line shutoff valve at the rear of the last trailer, it means that:

- The entire system is charged.

7 – Additional Air Brake Checks

37. When performing a walk-around inspection on double and triple rig coupling systems, check that the fifth wheel (lower):

- Is securely mounted to frame.
- Has no missing or damaged parts.
- Has enough grease.
- Has no visible space between upper and lower fifth wheel.
- Locking jaws are around the shank, not the head of kingpin.
- The release arm is properly seated and safety latch/lock engaged.

7 – Additional Checks

38. After using the tractor and first semitrailer to move the dolly into position as close as possible to nose of the second semitrailer:

- Lower dolly support.
- Unhook dolly from first trailer.
- Wheel dolly into position in front of second trailer in line with the kingpin.

7 – Coupling Twin Trailers

39. When performing a walk-around inspection on double and triple rig coupling systems, check to ensure that:

- Air lines are supported and glad hands are properly connected.
- If spare tire is carried on converter gear (dolly), it is secured.
- The pintle-eye of dolly is in place in pintle hook of trailer(s).
- The pintle hook is latched.
- Safety chains are secured to trailer(s).
- Light cords are firmly in sockets on trailers.

7 – Additional Checks



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TANK VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at: www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. Even in a tanker equipped with baffles:

- Side-to-side surge can still occur, possibly causing a roll over.

8 – Baffled Tanks

2. Be extremely cautious (slow and careful) in driving smooth bore tanks, especially when:

- Starting and stopping.

8 – Un-baffled Tanks

3. To avoid skids:

- Don't over-steer, over-accelerate, or over-brake.

8 – Skids

4. When coming to a stop, the liquid in a partially filled tank:

- Will surge back and forth.

8 – Danger of Surge





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TANK VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

5. To use controlled braking in an emergency:

- Apply the brakes as hard as you can without locking the wheels.
- Keep steering wheel movements very small while doing this.
- If you need to make a larger steering adjustment or if the wheels lock, release the brakes.
- Re-apply the brakes as soon as you can.

8 – Controlling Surge

6. Because some dense liquids (such as some acids) may exceed legal weight limits:

- You may often only partially fill tanks with heavy liquids.

8 – How Much to Load?

7. The need to leave extra room in a tank for liquids to expand when they warm is known as:

- "Outage."

8 – Outage

8. Baffles help to control the:

- Forward and backward liquid surge.

8 – Baffled Tanks

9. To use "Stab Braking" in an emergency:

- Apply your brakes all the way.
- Release brakes when wheels lock up.
- As soon as the wheels start rolling, apply the brakes fully again.

8 – Controlling Surge

10. Tests have shown that tankers can turn over at:

- The speed limits posted for curves.

8 – High Center of Gravity

11. Un-baffled liquid tankers (sometimes called "smooth bore" tanks) have:

- Nothing inside to slow down the flow (surge) of the liquid.

8 – Un-baffled Tanks



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TANK VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

12. High center of gravity means that:

- Much of the load's weight is carried high up off the road.

8 – High Center of Gravity

13. Keep in mind how much space you need to stop your vehicle:

- Wet roads double the normal stopping distance.
- Empty tank vehicles may take longer to stop than full ones.

8 – Stopping Distance

14. When hauling liquids in bulk:

- You must know the outage requirement.

8 – Outage

15. Because of the high center of gravity and the surge of the liquid, you must:

- Start, slow down, and stop very smoothly.
- Make smooth turns and lane changes.

8 – Drive Smoothly

16. Tank vehicles come in many types and sizes; in order to properly inspect your tank vehicle, you need to:

- Check the vehicle's operator manual.

8 – Inspecting Tank Vehicles

17. A tank endorsement is required for Class C vehicles when the vehicle is used to transport:

- Hazardous materials in liquid or gas form in a permanently mounted cargo tank rated at 119 gallons or more or;
- Hazardous materials in liquid or gas form in a portable tank rated at 1,000 gallons or more.

8 - Tank Vehicles

18. The amount of liquid to load into a tank depends on:

- The amount the liquid will expand in transit.
- The weight of the liquid.
- Legal weight limits.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TANK VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

8 – How Much to Load?

19. If your tank vehicle has any of the following equipment, make sure it works:

- Vapor recovery kits.
- Grounding and bonding cables.
- Emergency shut-off systems.
- Built in fire extinguisher.

8 – Check Special Purpose Equipment

20. You must never load a cargo tank totally full because:

- Liquids expand as they warm and you must leave room for the expanding liquid.

8 – Outage

21. Sanitary rules require that tankers that transport food products must be un-baffled or smooth bore:

- Because of the difficulty in cleaning the inside of tank.

8 – Un-baffled Tanks

22. Bulkheads within a tanker that have holes that allow the liquid to flow through are known as:

- Baffles.

8 – Baffled Tanks

23. If you carry liquids or gases in a leaking tank, you may:

- Be cited and prevented from driving further.
- Be liable for the cleanup of any spill.

8 – Leaks

24. Never drive a tank vehicle with:

- Open valves or manhole covers.

8 – Check Special Purpose Equipment

25. Tankers should take highway curves and on ramp/off ramp curves:

- Well below the posted speeds.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TANK VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

8 – High Center of Gravity

26. Because of their high center of gravity and the effects of surge:

- Liquid tankers are especially easy to roll over.

8 – High Center of Gravity

27. A full tank of dense liquid (such as some acids) may:

- Exceed legal weight limits.

8 – How Much to Load?

28. A tank endorsement is required if your vehicle needs a Class A or B CDL and you want to haul a liquid or liquid gas in a:

- Permanently mounted cargo tank rated at 119 gallons or more or a;
- Portable tank rated at 1,000 gallons or more.

8 - Tank Vehicles

29. Carrying liquids or gases in a leaking tank is:

- A crime.

8 – Leaks

30. To control surge:

- Keep a steady pressure on the brakes.
- Do not release too soon when coming to a stop.
- Brake far in advance of a stop and increase your following distance.

8 – Controlling Surge

31. Some liquid tanks are divided into several smaller tanks by:

- Bulkheads.

8 – Bulkheads

32. Baffled liquid tanks have bulkheads in them with:

- Holes that let the liquid flow through.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL TANK VEHICLES CHEAT SHEET

8 – Baffled Tanks

33. If you must make a quick stop to avoid a crash while driving a tank vehicle:

- Use controlled or stab braking.

8 – Controlling Surge

34. On all tank vehicles, the most important item to check for is:

- Leaks.

8 – Leaks

35. If the truck is on a slippery surface such as ice, the surge wave in a partially filled tank can:

- Shove a stopped truck out into an intersection.

8 – Danger of Surge

36. When loading and unloading the smaller tanks in a tanker divided by bulkheads, the driver must:

- Pay attention to weight distribution.

8 – Bulkheads

37. Your tank vehicle may be required to have:

- Emergency equipment; find out what equipment you're required to carry and make sure you have it (and it works).

8 – Special Equipment

38. To drive safely through curves:

- Slow down before the curve then, accelerate slightly through the curve.

8 – Curves

39. If you steer quickly while braking:

- Your vehicle may roll over.

8 – Controlling Surge



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at:
www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. It is vital that the proper shipping name, identification number, label, and placards are correct because:

- The Department of Transportation guidebook for firefighters, police, and industry workers on how to protect themselves and the public from hazardous materials is indexed by proper shipping name and hazardous materials identification number.

9 – Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)

2. Corrosive materials such as battery acid are considered _____ hazardous materials:

- Class 8

9 - Hazardous Materials Class Table

3. If you use the engine to run a pump for transferring compressed gas:

- Turn it off after product transfer, before you unhook the hose.

9 – Compressed Gas

4. As a professional driver, your job at the scene of a crash or an incident is to:

- Keep people away from the scene.
- Limit the spread of material, only if you can safely do so.
- Communicate the danger of the hazardous materials to emergency response personnel.
- Provide emergency responders with the shipping papers and emergency response information.

9 – Crashes/Incidents





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

5. On the Shipping Paper, the basic description of hazardous materials includes:

- The proper shipping name.
- Hazard class or division.
- The identification number.
- The packing group, if any, in that order.

9 – The Item Description

6. Load charged storage batteries:

- So their liquid won't spill.
- Right side up.
- To ensure that cargo won't fall against or short circuit them.

9 – General Loading Requirements

7. Before moving a tank of hazardous materials:

- Close all manholes and valves no matter how small the amount in the tank or how short the distance.

9 – Tank Loading

8. A (+) in column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table:

- Shows the proper shipping name, hazard class, and packing group to use, even if the material doesn't meet the hazard class definition.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

9. The person attending a parked, placarded vehicle must:

- Be in the vehicle, awake, and not in the sleeper berth, or within 100 feet of the vehicle and have it within clear view.
- Be aware of the hazards of the materials being transported.
- Know what to do in emergencies.
- Be able to move the vehicle, if needed.

9 – Attending Parked Vehicles

10. Column 2 of the Hazardous Material Table lists:

- The proper shipping names and descriptions of regulated materials. Entries are in alphabetical order so you can more quickly find the right entry.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

11. The Driver:

- Makes sure the shipper has identified, marked, and labeled the hazardous materials properly.
- Refuses leaking packages and shipments.
- Placards vehicle when loading, if required.
- Safely transports the shipment without delay.
- Follows all special rules about transporting hazardous materials.
- Keeps hazardous materials shipping papers and emergency response information in the proper place.

9 – The Driver

12. _____ are signs put on the outside of a vehicle and on bulk packages, which identify the hazard class of the cargo.

- Placards

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

13. The Shipper uses the hazardous materials regulations to determine the product's:

- Proper shipping name.
- Hazard class.
- Identification number.
- Packing group.
- Correct packaging.
- Correct label and markings.
- Correct placards.

9 – The Shipper

14. Keep liquid discharge valves on a compressed gas tank closed except when:

- Loading and unloading.

9 – Compressed Gas

15. The "Segregation Table for Hazardous Materials" lists:

- Hazardous materials that must be kept apart from other materials.

9 – General Loading Requirements

16. When dealing with Division 2.3 (Poisonous Gas) or Division 6.1 (Poisonous) Materials:

- Never transport these materials in containers with interconnections.
- Never load a package labeled POISON or POISON INHALATION HAZARD in the driver's cab or sleeper or with food material for human or animal consumption.

9 – General Loading Requirements



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

17. The carrier must give each driver transporting Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosives and the driver must sign a receipt for:

- Shipping papers.
- Written emergency instructions.
- Written route plan.
- A copy of FMCSR, Part 397.

9 – Where to Keep Shipping Papers and Emergency Response Information

18. If you discover a cargo leak, do not:

- Touch any leaking material.
- Try to identify the material or find the source of a leak by smell; toxic gases can destroy your sense of smell and can injure or kill you even if they don't smell.

9 – Fires

19. If the words INHALATION HAZARD appear on the shipping paper or package:

- The rules require display of the POISON INHALATION HAZARD or POISON GAS placards.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

20. Do not transfer a Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 Explosives from one vehicle to another on a public roadway except:

- In an emergency.
 - If safety requires an emergency transfer, set out red warning reflectors, flags, or electric lanterns.
 - You must warn others on the road.

9 – General Loading Requirements

21. Do not transport Division 1.1 or 1.2 Explosives in vehicle combinations if:

- There is a marked or placarded cargo tank in the combination.
- The other vehicle in the combination contains:
 - Division 1.1 A (Initiating Explosives).
 - Packages of Class 7 (Radioactive) materials labeled "Yellow III."
 - Division 2.3 (Poisonous Gas) or Division 6.1 (Poisonous) materials.
 - Hazardous materials in a portable tank, on a DOT Spec 106A or 110A tank.

9 – General Loading Requirements

22. _____ put diamond-shaped hazard warning labels on most hazardous materials packages to inform others of the hazard.

- Shippers

9 – Package Labels



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

23. The United States Department of Transportation's _____ lists the chemicals and the identification numbers assigned to them.

- Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

24. The Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) is:

- A guidebook for firefighters, police, and industry workers on how to protect themselves and the public from hazardous materials.

9 – Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)

25. On portable tanks or other bulk packaging that hold 1,000 gallons or more, the identification number must appear on:

- Each side and each end.

9 – Markings

26. Column 6 of the Hazardous Material Table shows:

- The hazard warning label(s) shippers must put on packages of hazardous materials. Some products require use of more than one label due to a dual hazard being present.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

27. Never smoke around:

- Class 1 (Explosives).
- Class 2.1 (Flammable Gas).
- Class 3 (Flammable Liquids).
- Class 4 (Flammable Solids).
- Class 5 (Oxidizers).

9 – General Loading Requirements

28. The _____ must provide the emergency response information to any federal, state, or local authority responding to a hazardous materials incident or investigating one.

- Driver

9 – The Item Description



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

29. A (D) in column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table:

- Means the proper shipping name is appropriate for describing materials for Domestic transportation, but may not be proper for international transportation.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

30. If you have an overheated tire:

- Remove it and place it a safe distance from your vehicle.
- Don't drive until you correct the cause of the overheating.
- Remember that the rules about parking and attending placarded vehicles apply even when checking, repairing, or replacing tires.

9 – Check Tires

31. Placards must appear on both sides and both ends of the vehicle. Each placard must be:

- Easily seen from the direction it faces.
- Placed so the words or numbers are level and read from left to right.
- At least three inches away from any other markings.
- Kept clear of attachments or devices such as ladders, doors, and tarpaulins.
- Kept clean and undamaged so that the color, format, and message are easily seen.
- Be affixed to a background of contrasting color.
- The use of "Drive Safely" and other slogans is prohibited.
- The front placard may be on the front of the tractor or the front of the trailer.

9 – Placarding

32. If rules require it, the shipper will put:

- RQ, MARINE POLLUTANT, BIOHAZARD, HOT, or INHALATION-HAZARD on the package.

9 – Package Markings and Labels

33. Unless you are fueling machinery used in road construction or maintenance:

- Do not transfer a flammable compressed gas from one tank to another on any public roadway.

9 – Responses to Specific Hazards

34. When using emergency markers around a placarded vehicle, never use burning signals, such as flares or fuses, around a:

- Tank used for Class 3 (Flammable Liquids) or Division 2.1 (Flammable Gas) whether loaded or empty.
- Vehicle loaded with Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 Explosives.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

9 – No Flares!

35. When transporting hazardous wastes:

- The name and EPA registration number of the shippers, carriers, and destination must appear on the manifest.
- Shippers must prepare, date, and sign by hand the manifest.
- Treat the manifest as a shipping paper when transporting the waste. Only give the waste shipment to another registered carrier or disposal/treatment facility.
- Each carrier transporting the shipment must sign by hand the manifest.
- After you deliver the shipment, keep your copy of the manifest.
- Each copy must have all needed signatures and dates, including those of the person to whom you delivered the waste.

9 – Hazardous Waste Manifest

36. Never park with Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosives within _____ of the traveled part of the road.

- Five feet

9 – Parking with Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 Explosives

37. Never load corrosive liquids with:

- Division 1.1 or 1.2 (Explosives).
- Division 1.2 or 1.3 (Explosives).
- Division 1.5 (Blasting Agents).
- Division 2.3, Zone A (Poisonous Gases).
- Division 4.2 (Spontaneously Combustible Materials).
- Division 6.1, PGI, Zone A (Poison Liquids).

9 – General Loading Requirements

38. Before fueling a motor vehicle containing hazardous materials:

- Turn off your engine.
- Someone must always be at the nozzle, controlling fuel flow.

9 – Refuel with Engine Off

39. Column 4 of the Hazardous Material Table lists:

- The identification number for each proper shipping name.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

40. It is illegal to move a vehicle with:

- Leaking hazardous materials.

9 – General Loading Requirements

41. The person in charge of loading and unloading a cargo tank must:

- Be sure a qualified person is always watching.

9 – Tank Loading

42. Column 5 of the Hazardous Material Table shows:

- The packing group (in Roman numeral) assigned to a material.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

43. A driver transporting chlorine in cargo tanks must have:

- An approved gas mask in the vehicle.
- An emergency kit for controlling leaks in dome cover plate fittings on the cargo tank.

9 – Equipment for Chlorine

44. A hazardous material's Reportable Quantity (RQ) is listed in:

- Appendix A to 49 CFR 172.101 - The List of Hazardous Substances and Reportable Quantities.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

45. Portable tanks are bulk packaging:

- That are not permanently attached to a vehicle.

9 - Mixed Loads

46. When sending someone for help, give that person:

- A description of the emergency.
- Your exact location and direction of travel.
- Your name, the carrier's name, and the name of the community or city where your terminal is located.
- The proper shipping name, hazard class, and identification number of the hazardous materials, if you know them.

9 – Fires

47. If you suspect a fire, feel trailer doors to see if they are hot before opening them:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

- If hot, you may have a cargo fire and should not open the doors.
- Opening doors lets air in and may make the fire flare up.
- Without air, many fires only smolder until firemen arrive, doing less damage.

9 – Fires

48. The Carrier:

- Takes the shipment from the shipper to its destination.
- Prior to transportation, checks that the shipper correctly described, marked, labeled, and otherwise prepared the shipment for transportation.
- Refuses improper shipments.
- Reports accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials to the proper government agency.

9 – The Carrier

49. Do not take a package of Explosives that shows:

- Any dampness or oily stain.

9– General Loading Requirements

50. The intent of Hazardous Material regulations is to:

- Contain the Material.
- Communicate the Risk.
- Assure Safe Drivers and Equipment.

9 – The Intent of the Regulations

51. Spills of hazardous substances must be reported to the DOT and EPA if they are equal to or greater than:

- The product's reportable quantity (RQ).

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

52. The numbers 1-6 in Column 7 of the Hazardous Material Table mean:

- The hazardous material is a poison inhalation hazard (PIH). PIH materials have special requirements for shipping papers, marking, and placards.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

53. When the shipper packages hazardous materials, _____ unless a package is clearly unsafe or does not comply with the HMR.

- You may accept the shipper's certification concerning proper packaging



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

9 – Shipper's Certification

54. Class 4 and 5 materials that are subject to spontaneous combustion or heating:

- **Must be in vehicles with sufficient ventilation.**

9 – General Loading Requirements

55. Bulk packaging is a single container with a capacity of:

- **119 gallons or more.**

9 – Placard Tables

56. A vehicle involved in a leak of Division 2.3 (Poison Gases) or Division 6.1 (Poisons):

- **Must be checked for stray poison before being used again.**

9 – Responses to Specific Hazards

57. Hazard warning labels, shipping papers, emergency response information, and placards:

- **Communicate the hazard to the shipper, the carrier, and the driver.**

9 – Communicate the Risk

58. A carrier must give each driver transporting Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosives a copy of:

- **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR), Part 397.**

9 – Where to Keep Shipping Papers and Emergency Response Information

59. When loading and unloading flammable liquids:

- **Ground a cargo tank correctly before filling it through an open filling hole.**
- **Ground the tank before opening the filling hole.**
- **Maintain the ground until after closing the filling hole.**

9 – Flammable Liquids

60. If hazardous materials are spilling from your vehicle:

- **Do not move it any more than safety requires.**
- **You may move off the road and away from places where people gather, if doing so serves safety.**
- **Only move your vehicle if you can do so without danger to yourself or others.**

9 – Fires

61. If you notify Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTREC) of a hazardous material incident:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

- CHEMTREC will notify the National Response Center.

9 – Required Notification

62. Before loading or unloading Explosives, you must:

- Disable cargo heaters. Disconnect heater power sources and drain heater fuel tanks.
- Make sure there are no sharp points that might damage cargo.
- Use a floor lining with Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3. The floors must be tight and the liner must be either non-metallic material or non-ferrous metal.

9 – General Loading Requirements

63. _____ of the Hazardous Materials Table tells which shipping mode(s) the entry affects and other information concerning the shipping description.

- Column one

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

64. Flammable, Non-Flammable, and Poisonous/Toxic Gases are _____ hazardous materials:

- Class 2

9 - Hazardous Materials Class Table

65. It is the responsibility of the shipper to list an _____ on the shipping papers.

- Emergency response telephone number

9 – The Item Description

66. When transporting Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosives:

- Don't park on private property unless the owner is aware of the danger.
- Someone must always watch the parked vehicle.

9 – Parking with Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 Explosives

67. An (A) in column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table:

- Means the hazardous material described in Column 2 is subject to the HMR only when offered or intended for transport by air unless it is a hazardous substance or hazardous waste.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

68. A (G) in column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table:

- Means this hazardous material described in Column 2 is a generic shipping name. A generic shipping name must be accompanied by a technical name on the shipping paper. A technical name is a specific chemical that makes the product hazardous.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

69. To make sure your tires are properly inflated, check placarded vehicles with dual tires:

- At the start of each trip.
- When you park.
- Each time you stop.

9 – Check Tires

70. Flammable Liquids such as gasoline are _____ hazardous materials:

- Class 3

9 - Hazardous Materials Class Table

71. Shippers also must provide emergency response information to the:

- Motor carrier for each hazardous material being shipped.

9 – The Item Description

72. Never load corrosive liquids next to or above:

- Division 1.4 (Explosives C).
- Division 4.1 (Flammable Solids).
- Division 4.3 (Dangerous When Wet).
- Class 5 (Oxidizers).
- Division 2.3, Zone B (Poisonous Gases).

9 – General Loading Requirements

73. If you continue to drive with hazardous materials leaking from your vehicle:

- The carrier pays for the cleanup of contaminated parking lots, roadways, and drainage ditches.

9 – Fires

74. If a package needs more than one label:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

- The labels must be close together, near the proper shipping name.

9 – Package Markings and Labels

75. Some localities prohibit transportation of hazardous materials through:

- Tunnels, over bridges, or other roadways; always check before you start.

9 – Route Restrictions

76. Identification numbers in Column 4 of the Hazardous Material Table are preceded by the letters:

- "UN" or "NA."

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

77. Placards used to identify the primary or subsidiary hazard class of a material must have:

- The hazard class or division number displayed in the lower corner of the placard.
- Permanently affixed subsidiary hazard placards without the hazard class number may be used as long as they stay within color specifications.

9 – Placard Tables

78. If the words INHALATION HAZARD are on the shipping paper or package:

- You must display POISON GAS or POISON INHALATION placards in addition to any other placards needed by the product's hazard class.
- The 1,000 pound exception does not apply to these materials.

9 – Placard Tables

79. Shipping papers:

- Describe the hazardous materials being transported.

9 – Definitions

80. Unless you have the training and equipment to do so safely:

- Don't fight hazardous materials fires.

9 – Fires

81. Before loading or unloading:

- Set the parking brake and make sure the vehicle will not move.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

- Load hazardous materials away from heat sources.
- Watch for signs of leaking or damaged containers:
- Containers of hazardous materials must be braced to prevent movement of the packages during transportation.

9 – General Loading Requirements

82. You must notify the National Response Center when any of the following occur as a direct result of a hazardous materials incident:

- A person is killed.
- An injured person requires hospitalization.
- Estimated property damage exceeds \$50,000.
- The general public is evacuated for more than one hour.
- One or more major transportation arteries or facilities are closed for one hour or more.
- Fire, breakage, spillage, or suspected radioactive contamination occurs.
- Fire, breakage, spillage or suspected contamination occur involving shipment of etiologic agents (bacteria or toxins).
- A situation exists of such a nature (e.g., continuing danger to life exists at the scene of an incident) that, in the judgment of the carrier, should be reported.

9 – Required Notification

83. The person watching the loading or unloading of a cargo tank must:

- Be alert.
- Have a clear view of the cargo tank.
- Be within 25 feet of the tank.
- Know of the hazards of the materials involved.
- Know the procedures to follow in an emergency.
- Be authorized to move the cargo tank and able to do so.

9 – Tank Loading

84. Column 8 of the Hazardous Material Table is a three-part column showing the:

- Section numbers covering the packaging requirements for each hazardous material.

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

85. If you must park a placarded vehicle (not laden with explosives) on a public roadway or shoulder:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

- **Someone must always watch the vehicle.**

9 – Parking a Placarded Vehicle Not Transporting Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3) Explosives

86. If your vehicle has a breakdown or accident while carrying Class 1 explosives:

- **Remove all explosives before separating vehicles involved in a collision.**
- **Place the explosives at least 200 feet from the vehicles and occupied buildings.**
- **Stay a safe distance away.**

9 – Responses to Specific Hazards

87. The power unit of placarded vehicles must have a fire extinguisher with a UL rating of:

- **10 B:C or more.**

9 – Fire Extinguishers

88. Non-compliance with hazmat regulations can result in:

- **Fines and jail.**

9 – Assure Safe Drivers and Equipment

89. Cargo tanks and other bulk packaging display the _____ on placards or orange panels or white square-on-point displays that are the same size as placards.

- **Identification number of their contents**

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

90. If a shipping paper describes both hazardous and non-hazardous products, the hazardous materials will be either:

- **Described first.**
- **Highlighted in a contrasting color.**
- **Identified by an "X" placed before the shipping name in a column captioned "HM". The letters "RQ" may be used instead of "X" if a reportable quantity is present in one package.**

9 – The Item Description

91. The letters _____ in Column 4 of the Hazardous Material Table are associated with proper shipping names that are only used within the United States and to and from Canada.

- **"NA"**



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

9 – Lists of Regulated Products

92. On the Shipping Paper, the packing group is displayed in _____ and may be preceded by "PG".

- Roman numerals

9 – The Item Description

93. You may park a placarded vehicle (not laden with explosives) within five feet of the traveled part of the road only if:

- Your work requires it.

9 – Parking a Placarded Vehicle Not Transporting Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3) Explosives

94. Other Regulated Material- Domestic such as medicine or food flavorings are considered _____ hazardous materials:

- Class e

9 - Hazardous Materials Class Table

95. At the scene of a crash or an incident, follow this checklist:

- Check to see that your driving partner is OK.
- Keep shipping papers with you.
- Keep people far away and upwind.
- Warn others of the danger.
- Call for help.
- Follow your employer's instructions.

9 – Crashes/Incidents

96. On the Placard Tables, Table 1 materials must be placarded whenever:

- Any amount is transported.

9 – Placard Tables

97. Whenever placarded:

- Avoid heavily populated areas, and crowds.
- Avoid tunnels, narrow streets, and alleys.
- Take other routes, even if inconvenient, unless there is no other way.

9 – Route Restrictions

98. On the Shipping Paper, the description must also show:

- The total quantity and unit of measure.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL HAZMAT CHEAT SHEET

- The letters RQ, if a reportable quantity.
- If the letters RQ appear, the name of the hazardous substance.
- For all materials with the letter "G" (Generic) in Column 1, the technical name of the hazardous material.

9 – The Item Description

99. In order for emergency responders to quickly determine the type of hazardous materials being carried, hazmat rules require:

- Shippers to describe hazardous materials correctly and include an emergency response telephone number on shipping papers.
- Carriers and drivers to quickly identify hazardous materials shipping papers, or keep them on top of other shipping papers and keep the required emergency response information with the shipping papers.

9 – Definitions



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at:
www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. During the pre-trip inspection:

- You must show that the vehicle is safe to drive.

2. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check the doors/mirrors to verify that:

- Entry/exit doors are not damaged and operate smoothly from the outside. Hinges should be secure with seals intact.
- The passenger exit mirrors and all external mirrors and mirror brackets are not damaged and are mounted securely with no loose fittings.

11 – Entry/ Exit

3. On school buses, in addition to the lighting indicators required for all vehicles, the driver should verify that the following internal panel lights are working:

- Alternately flashing amber lights indicator, if equipped.
- Alternately flashing red lights indicator.
- Strobe light indicator, if equipped.

11 – School Bus Only





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

4. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the temperature gauge to ensure that the:

- Temperature gauge is working.
- Temperature begins to climb to the normal operating range or temperature light should be off.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

5. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the kingpin/apron/gap by:

- Checking that the kingpin is not bent.
- Making sure the visible part of the apron is not bent, cracked, or broken.
- Checking that the trailer is laying flat on the fifth wheel skid plate (no gap).

11 – Tractor/Coupling

6. External brake component inspections should be performed on:

- Every axle (power unit and trailer, if equipped).

11 – Brakes

7. On all vehicles, during the external inspection, the driver should inspect the mounts at:

- Each point where they are secured to the vehicle frame and axle[s].

11 – Suspension

8. On all vehicles, during the external inspection, the driver should inspect shock absorbers to ensure that:

- They are secure and that there are no leaks.

11 – Suspension

9. On all vehicles, during the cab check/engine start inspection, the driver should inspect the:

- Oil Pressure Gauge.
- Temperature Gauge.
- Air Gauge.
- Ammeter/Voltmeter.
- Mirrors and Windshield.
- Emergency Equipment.
- Steering Play.
- Wipers/Washers.
- Lights/Reflectors/Reflector Tape Condition (Sides & Rear).
- Brakes.
- Safety Belt.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

10. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the mirrors and windshield to ensure that the:

- Mirrors are clean and adjusted properly from the inside.
- Windshield is clean with no illegal stickers, no obstructions, or damage to the glass.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

11. On school buses, in addition to the equipment check for all vehicles, the driver must also check the seating to verify that:

- There are no broken seat frames and that seat frames are firmly attached to the floor.
- Seat cushions are attached securely to the seat frames.

11 – School Bus Only

12. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the 5th wheel skid plate by:

- Checking for proper lubrication and that 5th wheel skid plate is securely mounted to the platform and that all bolts and pins are secure and not missing.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

13. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check the fuel tank(s) to ensure that:

- They are secure with no leaks from tank(s) or lines.

11 – External Inspection of Coach/Transit Bus

14. When performing the air brake check, to fan off air pressure, the driver should:

- Rapidly apply and release the foot brake.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

15. On all vehicles, during the side inspection, the driver should check the battery/box to ensure that:

- Wherever located, that battery(s) are secure, connections are tight, and cell caps are present.
- Battery connections do not show signs of excessive corrosion.
- Battery box and cover or door is secure.

11 – Side of Vehicle

16. When performing the air brake check, after fanning off the air pressure by rapidly applying and releasing the foot brake, the low air warning devices should activate before the pressure drops below:

- 60 psi.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

17. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect wipers/washers by checking that:

- Wiper arms and blades are secure, not damaged, and operate smoothly.
- Windshield washers operate correctly.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

18. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the horn and heater/defroster to ensure that the:

- Air horn and/or electric horn work.
- Heater and defroster work.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

19. In addition to the external check for all vehicles, the driver must also check the trailer doors/ties/lifts to verify that:

- If equipped, doors are not damaged. Check that doors open, close, and latch properly from the outside.
- Ties, straps, chains, and binders are secure.
- If equipped with a cargo lift, there are no leaking, damaged or missing parts and explain how it should be checked for correct operation.
- The lift is fully retracted and latched securely.

11 – Side of Trailer

20. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, to perform the first component of the inspection of air brake equipped vehicles, the driver should:

- Shut off the engine.
- Chock your wheels, if necessary.
- Release the tractor protection valve and parking brake (push in).
- Fully apply the foot brake and hold it for one minute.
- Check the air gauge to see if the air pressure drops more than three pounds in one minute (single vehicle) or four pounds in one minute (combination vehicle).

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

21. On all vehicles, when checking the coolant level, the driver should:

- Inspect reservoir sight glass, or
- (If engine is not hot), remove radiator cap and check for visible coolant level.

11 Engine Compartment (Engine Off)



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

22. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect steering play by:

- **Non-power steering:** Turning steering wheel back and forth. Play should not exceed 10 degrees (or about two inches on a 20-inch wheel).
- **Power steering:** With the engine running, check for excessive play by turning the steering wheel back and forth. Play should not exceed 10 degrees (or about two inches on a 20-inch wheel) before front left wheel barely moves.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

23. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should test that the dash indicators work when the following lights are turned on:

- Left turn signal.
- Right turn signal.
- Four-way emergency flashers.
- High beam headlight.
- Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) indicator.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

24. If you kick the tires to check for proper inflation:

- You will not get credit for that portion of the inspection.

11 – Wheels

25. On all vehicles, during the external wheel inspection, the driver should check the spacers or budd spacing (if equipped) to ensure that:

- Spacers are not bent, damaged, or rusted through.
- Spacers are evenly centered, with the dual wheels and tires evenly separated.

11 – Wheels

26. On all vehicles, during the external wheel inspection, the driver should check the tires for:

- A minimum tread depth of (4/32 on steering axle tires, 2/32 on all other tires).
- **Condition:** Check that tread is evenly worn and look for cuts or other damage to tread or sidewalls. Also, make sure that valve caps and stems are not missing, broken, or damaged.
- **Inflation:** Check for proper inflation by using a tire gauge, or inflation by striking tires with a mallet or other similar device.

11 – Wheels



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

27. On all vehicles, when checking the engine compartment belts, the driver should:

- Check the following belts for snugness (up to 3/4 inch play at center of belt), cracks, or frays:
 - Power steering belt.
 - Water pump belt.
 - Alternator belt.
 - Air compressor belt.
- Make sure component(s) are operating properly, are not damaged or leaking, and are mounted securely.

11 Engine Compartment (Engine Off)

28. Failure to perform all three components of the air brake check correctly will result in:

- An automatic failure of the vehicle inspection test.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

29. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, if equipped, the driver should check ball hitch, pintle hook coupling systems etc., to ensure:

- There are no loose or missing coupling components.
- Mounting brackets have no missing or broken parts.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

30. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the hydraulic brakes by:

- Pumping the brake pedal three times, then holding it down for five seconds. The brake pedal should not move (depress) during the five seconds.
- If equipped with a hydraulic brake reserve (back-up) system, with the key off, depressing the brake pedal and listening for the sound of the reserve system electric motor.
- Checking that the warning buzzer or light is off.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

31. On all vehicles, during the rear of vehicle inspection, the driver should check the doors/ties/lifts to ensure that:

- Doors and hinges are not damaged and that they open, close, and latch properly from the outside, if equipped.
- Ties, straps, chains, and binders must be secure.
- If equipped with a cargo lift, there are no leaking, damaged or missing parts and explain how it should be checked for correct operation.
- Lift is fully retracted and latched securely.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 – Rear of Vehicle

32. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check the battery/box to ensure that:

- Wherever located, that battery(s) are secure, connections are tight, and cell caps are present.
- Battery connections do not show signs of excessive corrosion.
- The battery box and cover or door is not damaged and is secure.

11 – External Inspection of Coach/Transit Bus

33. Wheel rims cannot have:

- Welding repairs.

11 – Wheels

34. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check the passenger seating to verify that:

- There are no broken seat frames and that seat frames are firmly attached to the floor.
- Seat cushions are attached securely to the seat frames.

11 – Passenger Items

35. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, to inspect the service brakes, the driver should:

- Pull forward at 5 mph, apply the service brake and stop.
- Check to see that the vehicle does not pull to either side and that it stops when brake is applied.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

36. On school buses, in addition to the external equipment for all vehicles, the driver must also check the stop arm to verify:

- That it is mounted securely to the frame of the vehicle.
- There are no loose fittings or damage.

11 – School Bus Only

37. On school buses, in addition to the lights/reflectors required for all vehicles, the driver should verify that the following (external) lights and reflectors are working:

- Strobe light, if equipped.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

- Stop arm light, if equipped.
- Alternately flashing amber lights, if equipped.
- Alternately flashing red lights.

11– School Bus Only

38. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the mounting bolts to ensure:

- There are no loose or missing mounting brackets, clamps, bolts, or nuts.
- Both the fifth wheel and the slide mounting must be solidly attached.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

39. On all vehicles, during the side inspection, the driver should check the exhaust system to ensure that:

- There are no signs of damage or signs of leaks such as rust or carbon soot.
- The system is connected tightly and mounted securely.

11 – Side of Vehicle

40. On all vehicles, during the external wheel inspection, the driver should check the rims for:

- Damaged or bent rims. (Rims cannot have welding repairs.).

11 – Wheels

41. All of the pre-trip inspection tests:

- Include an engine start and an in-cab inspection.
- May require an inspection of the entire vehicle or only a portion of the vehicle which your CDL Examiner will explain to you.
- Will include inspection of any special features of your vehicle (e.g., school or transit bus).

11 - All Vehicles

42. The minimum tread depth on all tires other than steering axle tires is:

- 2/32

11 – Wheels

43. Fire extinguishers should be properly:

- Rated.
- Charged.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

44. On all vehicles, during the external wheel inspection, the driver should check the hub oil seals/axle seals to ensure:

- Hub oil/grease seals and axle seals are not leaking.
- Oil level is adequate, if wheel has a sight glass.

11 – Wheels

45. On school buses, in addition to the equipment check for all vehicles, the driver must also check the emergency exit to verify that:

- All emergency exits are not damaged, operate smoothly, and close securely from the inside.
- Any emergency exit warning devices are working.

11 – School Bus Only

46. During the pre-trip inspection:

- You may have to walk around the vehicle and point to or touch each item and explain to the examiner what you are checking and why.

11 - All Vehicles

47. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the emergency equipment to:

- Check for spare electrical fuses.
- Check for three red reflective triangles.
- Check for a properly charged and rated fire extinguisher.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

48. In addition to the external check for all vehicles, the driver must also check the remainder of the trailer using the standard inspection procedures for:

- Wheels.
- Suspension system.
- Brakes.
- Doors/ties/lift.
- Splash guards.

11 – Remainder of Trailer

49. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check the emergency exits to verify that:

- Emergency exits are not damaged, operate smoothly, and close securely from the inside.
- Any emergency exit warning devices are working.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 – Passenger Items

50. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check for level/air leaks by:

- Ensuring that the vehicle is sitting level (front and rear), and if air-equipped, check for audible air leaks from the suspension system.

11 – External Inspection of Coach/Transit Bus

51. In addition to the external check for all vehicles, the driver must also check the trailer frame for:

- Cracks.
- Broken welds.
- Holes or other damage to the frame.
- Cross members.
- Box, and floor.

11 – Side of Trailer

52. On all vehicles, during the side inspection, the driver should check the frame to ensure that:

- There are no cracks, broken welds, holes or other damage to the longitudinal frame members, cross members, box, and floor.

11 – Side of Vehicle

53. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the locking pins (fifth wheel) by:

- If equipped, looking for loose or missing pins in the slide mechanism of the sliding fifth wheel. If air powered, check for leaks.
- Making sure locking pins are fully engaged.
- Checking that the fifth wheel is positioned properly so that the tractor frame will clear the landing gear during turns.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

54. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the hitch release lever to ensure:

- It is in place and is secure.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

55. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the ammeter/voltmeter to ensure that the:

- Gauges show alternator and/or generator is charging or that warning light is off.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

56. On all vehicles, during the external inspection, the driver should inspect the steering linkage to ensure that:

- Connecting links, arms, and rods from the steering box to the wheel are not worn or cracked.
- Joints and sockets are not worn or loose and that there are no missing nuts, bolts, or cotter keys.

11 – Steering

57. On all vehicles, during the side inspection, the driver should check the door(s)/mirror(s) to ensure that:

- Door(s) are not damaged and that they open and close properly from the outside.
- Hinges are secure with seals intact.
- Mirror(s) and mirror brackets are not damaged and are mounted securely with no loose fittings.

11 – Side of Vehicle

58. If the vehicle is not equipped with electrical fuses:

- You must mention this to the examiner.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

59. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, to perform the third component of the inspection of air brake equipped vehicles, the driver should:

- Continue to fan off the air pressure. At approximately 40 psi on a tractor-trailer combination vehicle, the tractor protection valve and parking brake valve should close (pop out).
- On other combination vehicle types and single vehicle types, the parking brake valve should close (pop out).

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

60. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the air gauge to ensure that the:

- Gauge is working properly.
- Air pressure builds to governor cut-out, roughly 120-140 psi.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

61. On all vehicles, during the external drum brake inspection, when there are openings where the brake lining can be seen from outside the drum, check that:

- A visible amount of brake lining is showing.

11 – Brakes

62. On all vehicles, during the cab/engine start check, the driver should inspect the oil pressure gauge to ensure that the:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

- Oil pressure gauge is working.
- Pressure gauge shows increasing or normal oil pressure or that the warning light goes off.
- Oil temperature begins a gradual rise to the normal operating range (if equipped with a gauge).

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

63. On school buses, in addition to the emergency equipment required for all vehicles, the driver should verify that the following emergency items are aboard:

- Emergency Kit.
- Body Fluid Cleanup Kit.

11 – School Bus Only

64. When performing the air brake check, after fully applying the foot brake, the air pressure should not drop more than:

- Three pounds in one minute (single vehicle).
- Four pounds in one minute (combination vehicle).

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

65. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the 5th wheel platform by:

- Checking for cracks or breaks in the platform structure which supports the fifth wheel skid plate.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

66. On all vehicles, during the external inspection, the driver should inspect the suspension at:

- Every axle (power unit and trailer, if equipped).

11 – Suspension

67. In addition to the external check for all vehicles, during the side inspection, the driver must also check the trailer landing gear to verify that:

- The landing gear is fully raised, has no missing parts, crank handle is secure, and the support frame is not damaged.
- If power operated, there are no air or hydraulic leaks.

11 – Side of Trailer

68. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the 5th wheel release arm (if equipped) by:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

- Making sure the release arm is in the engaged position and the safety latch is in place.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

69. On all vehicles, when checking the power steering fluid level, the driver should:

- Indicate where power steering fluid dipstick is located.
- Check for adequate power steering fluid level.
- Verify that level is above refill mark.

11 - Engine Compartment (Engine Off)

70. On school buses, in addition to the equipment check for all vehicles, the driver must also check the passenger entry/lift to verify that:

- The entry door is not damaged, operates smoothly, and closes securely from the inside.
- Hand rails are secure and the step light is working, if equipped.
- The entry steps are clear with the treads not loose or worn excessively.
- If equipped with a handicap lift, there are no leaking, damaged, or missing parts and explain how lift should be checked for correct operation.
- Lift is fully retracted and latched securely.

11 – School Bus Only

71. In addition to the standard inspection procedures for all vehicles, the driver of a coach/transit bus must also check the baggage compartments to ensure that:

- Baggage and all other exterior compartment doors are not damaged, operate properly, and latch securely.

11 – External Inspection of Coach/Transit Bus

72. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the sliding pintle by:

- Checking that the sliding pintle is secured with no loose or missing nuts or bolts and cotter pin is in place.

11 – Tractor/Coupling

73. On all vehicles, when checking the engine for a safe start, the driver should:

- Depress clutch.
- Place gearshift lever in neutral (or park, for automatic transmissions).
- Start engine, then release clutch slowly.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 - Engine Compartment (Engine Off)

74. On all vehicles, a check for leaks and hoses should include checks for:

- Puddles on the ground.
- Dripping fluids on underside of engine and transmission.
- Hoses for condition and leaks.

11 - Engine Compartment (Engine Off)

75. In addition to the external check for all vehicles, during the trailer front inspection, the driver must also check the header board (if equipped) to verify that:

- It is secure, free of damage, and strong enough to contain cargo.
- The canvas or tarp carrier is mounted and fastened securely.
- On enclosed trailers, the front area has no signs of damage such as cracks, bulges, or holes.

11 – Trailer Front

76. When inspecting manual slack adjustors, the brake pushrod should not move more than:

- One inch (with the brakes released) when pulled by hand.

11 – Brakes

77. External light and reflector checks include:

- Clearance lights (red on rear, amber elsewhere).
- Headlights (high and low beams).
- Taillights.
- Backing lights.
- Turn signals.
- Four-way flashers.
- Brake lights.
- Red reflectors (on rear) and amber reflectors (elsewhere).
- Reflector tape condition

Note: Checks of brake, turn signal and four-way flasher functions must be done separately.

11 – Cab Check/Engine Start

78. On all vehicles, during the external inspection, the driver should inspect the mounts to ensure that:

- There are no cracked or broken spring hangers, missing or damaged bushings, and broken, loose, or missing bolts, U-bolts or other axle mounting parts.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL PRE-TRIP INSPECTION CHEAT SHEET

11 – Suspension

79. On all vehicles, during the tractor/coupling inspection, the driver should check the tongue or draw-bar by:

- **Checking that the tongue/draw-bar is not bent or twisted and checks for broken welds and stress cracks.**
- **Checking that the tongue/draw-bar is not worn excessively.**

11 – Tractor/Coupling



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR LICENSE FAST!

IMPORTANT LINKS

California DMV: <http://dri.vg/cOb>

DMV CDL Information: <http://dri.vg/2iD>

DMV Appointments: <http://dri.vg/9Yd>

Driver License Office Locations: <http://dri.vg/JqB>

Fees: <http://dri.vg/C1l>

DMV REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Valid Driver's License
- Medical Certificate: <http://dri.vg/LdC>
- Proof of Identity Documents: <http://dri.vg/v9l>

TESTS YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE

- General Knowledge
- Air Brakes (if applicable)
- Pre-Trip Inspection
- Basic Skills
- CDL Road Test
- Vision Exam

Applicable exams for desired endorsements:

- Hazardous Materials
- Tank Vehicles
- Passengers
- School Bus
- Double/Triple Trailers

Practice exam available online at:
www.TestQuestionsAndAnswers.com

1. Strong winds can:

- Push the school bus sideways, move it off the road or, in extreme conditions, tip it over.

10 – Driving in High Winds

2. When approaching a railroad crossing:

- Slow down, including shifting to a lower gear in a manual transmission bus, and test your brakes.
- Activate hazard lights approximately 200 feet before the crossing. Make sure your intentions are known.
- Scan your surroundings and check for traffic behind you.
- Stay to the right of the roadway if possible.
- Choose an escape route in the event of a brake failure or problems behind you.

10 – Recommended Procedures

3. Pavement markings consisting of an "X" with the letters "RR" and a no passing marking on two-lane roads mean the same as:

- The advance railroad warning sign.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices





DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

4. At a railroad-highway crossings with gates with flashing red lights and bells:

- Stop when the lights begin to flash and before the gate lowers across the road lane.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

5. When loading the school bus, if there is a student missing:

- Ask the other students where the student is.

10 – Loading Procedures

6. If there is more than one track at a railroad crossing:

- Make sure all tracks are clear before crossing.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

7. Approaching a school bus stop involves the proper use of:

- Mirrors.
- Alternating flashing lights.
- Moveable stop signal arm and crossing control arm, when equipped.

10 – Approaching the Stop

8. When you are at the railroad crossing:

- Stop no closer than 15 feet and no farther than 50 feet from the nearest rail, where you have the best view of the tracks.
- Place the transmission in Park, or if there is no Park shift point, in Neutral and press down on the service brake or set the parking brakes.
- Turn off all radios and noisy equipment, and silence the passengers.
- Open the service door and driver's window. Look and listen for an approaching train.

10 – Recommended Procedures

9. The Department of Transportation requires that antilock braking systems (ABS) be installed on:

- Air brakes vehicles, (trucks, buses, trailers and converter dollies) built on or after March 1, 1998.
- Hydraulically braked trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 lbs. or more built on or after March 1, 1999.

10 – Vehicles Required to Have Antilock Braking Systems



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10. An anti-lock braking systems (ABS):

- Helps you avoid wheel lock up and maintain control.

10 – How ABS Helps You

11. The danger zone is the area on all sides of the bus where children are in the most danger of being hit, either by:

- Another vehicle or their own bus.

10 – Danger Zones

12. If the gate comes down after you have started across the railroad tracks:

- Drive through it even if it means you will break the gate.

10 – Recommended Procedures

13. When unloading at the school you should secure the bus by:

- Turning off the ignition switch.
- Removing key if leaving driver's compartment.

10 – Unloading Procedures at School

14. The school bus has blind spots:

- Immediately below and in front of each mirror.
Directly in back of the rear bumper.

10 – Outside Left and Right Side Flat Mirrors

15. Anti-lock braking systems (ABS) won't:

- Allow you to drive faster, follow more closely, or drive less carefully.
- Prevent power or turning skids—ABS should prevent brake-induced skids but not those caused by spinning the drive wheels or going too fast in a turn.
- Necessarily shorten stopping distance.
- Increase or decrease ultimate stopping power—ABS is an “add-on” to your normal brakes, not a replacement for them.
- Change the way you normally brake. Under normal brake conditions, your vehicle will stop as it always stopped.
- Compensate for bad brakes or poor brake maintenance.

10 – Safety Reminders



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

16. In general, in regard to railroad crossings:

- School buses must stop at all crossings, and ensure it is safe before proceeding across the tracks.

10 – Recommended Procedures

17. If you have to leave your seat to deal with a student's behavioral issue:

- Secure the bus; take the ignition key with you if you leave your seat.

10 – Handling Serious Problems

18. Always focus on students as they approach the bus and watch for:

- Any who disappear from sight.

10 – Special Dangers of Loading and Unloading

19. When driving a vehicle with an anti-lock braking systems (ABS), remember:

- The best vehicle safety feature is still a safe driver.
- Drive so you never need to use your ABS.
- If you need it, ABS could help to prevent a serious crash.

10 – Safety Reminders

20. Any problems or special situations found during your post trip inspection:

- Should be reported immediately to your supervisor or school authorities.

10 – Post-trip Inspection

21. To avoid student injuries by getting caught on the handrail or the door:

- You should closely observe all students exiting the bus to confirm that they are in a safe location prior to moving the bus.

10 – Special Dangers of Loading and Unloading

22. Before operating a school bus:

- Check each mirror to obtain maximum viewing area; if necessary, have the mirrors adjusted.

10 – Correct Mirror Adjustment



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

23. If you feel that a student's offense is serious enough that you cannot safely drive the bus:

- Call for a school administrator or the police to come and remove the student.
- Always follow your state or local procedures for requesting assistance.

10 – Handling Serious Problems

24. After receiving your signal to cross the roadway, students should:

- Cross far enough in front of the school bus to be in your view.
- Stop at the left edge of the school bus, stop, and look again for your signal to continue to cross the roadway.
- Look for traffic in both directions, making sure roadway is clear.
- Proceed across the roadway, continuing to look in all directions.

10 – Unloading Procedures on the Route

25. When unloading students:

- Count the number of students while unloading to confirm the location of all students before pulling away from the stop.

10 – Unloading Procedures on the Route

26. When approaching a school bus stop, you should:

- Move as far as possible to the right on the traveled portion of the roadway.

10 – Approaching the Stop

27. All school bus stops should be approved by:

- The school district prior to making the stop.

10 – Approaching the Stop

28. The tail swing of a school bus can extend up to:

- 3 feet.

10 – Tail Swing

29. When approaching a crossing with a signal or stop sign on the opposite side:

- Be certain the bus has enough "containment or storage" area to completely clear the railroad tracks on the other side if there is a need to stop.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Special Situations

30. Braking hard on a slippery surface in a vehicle without anti-lock braking systems (ABS):

- Could cause your wheels to lock up leading to skidding, loss of steering, and spinning of the vehicle.

10 – How ABS Helps You

31. After evacuating the bus and ensuring the safety of the students:

- Protect the scene. Set out emergency warning devices as necessary and appropriate.
- Prepare information for emergency responders.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

32. Limited visibility requiring use of the roof mounted strobe light means:

- You cannot easily see around you – in front, behind, or beside the school bus.
- Your visibility could be only slightly limited or it could be so bad that you can see nothing at all.

10 – Strobe Lights

33. If there is a behavior problem on the bus while loading or unloading students:

- Don't take your eyes off what is happening outside the bus.

10 – Don't Deal with On-bus Problems When Loading and Unloading

34. After loading the bus, when all students are accounted for, prepare to leave by:

- Closing the door.
- Engaging the transmission.
- Releasing the parking brake.
- Turning off alternating flashing red lights.
- Turning on left turn signal.
- Checking all mirrors again.
- Allowing congested traffic to disperse.
- Entering the traffic flow only when it is safe to do so.

10 – Loading Procedures

35. Passive railroad crossings require you to:

- Recognize the crossing.
- Search for any train using the tracks, and;
- Decide if there is sufficient clear space to cross safely.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Types of Crossings

36. During an emergency evacuation, if there is no radio, or the radio is inoperable:

- Dispatch a passing motorist or area resident to call for help.
- As a last resort, dispatch two older, responsible students to go for help.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

37. Laws and regulations governing how school buses must operate at railroad-highway crossings:

- Vary in each state: it is important for you to understand and obey these state laws and regulations.

10 – Recommended Procedures

38. To tell if your bus has an anti-lock braking systems (ABS) installed:

- Your school bus will have a yellow ABS malfunction lamp on the instrument panel if it is equipped with ABS.

10 – Vehicles Required to Have Antilock Braking Systems

39. When approaching a school bus stop, you should turn on the right turn signal indicator:

- About 100-300 feet or approximately 3-5 seconds before pulling over.

10 – Approaching the Stop

40. Before allowing students to unload:

- Check all mirrors.

10 – Unloading Procedures on the Route

41. When dealing with a student's behavioral issue:

- Speak in a courteous manner with a firm voice.
- Remind the offender of the expected behavior.
- Do not show anger, but do show that you mean business.

10 – Handling Serious Problems

42. If you are caught in strong winds:

- Keep a strong grip on the steering wheel. Try to anticipate gusts.
- You should slow down to lessen the effect of the wind, or pull off the roadway and wait.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

- Contact your dispatcher to get more information on how to proceed.

10 – Driving in High Winds

43. The overhead inside rearview mirror is located:

- Directly above the windshield on the driver's side area of the bus.

10 – Overhead Inside Rearview Mirror

44. The railroad crossbuck sign requires you to:

- Yield the right-of-way to the train.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

45. After loading students and before moving the bus:

- Wait until students are seated and facing forward.

10 – Loading Procedures

46. When crossing railroad tracks:

- Cross the tracks in a low gear.
Do not change gears while crossing.

10 – Recommended Procedures

47. After stopping at a school bus stop, open service door, if possible, enough to activate alternating red lights when:

- Traffic is a safe distance from the school bus.

10 – Approaching the Stop

48. The advance railroad warning sign tells you to:

- Slow down.
- Look and listen for the train.
- Be prepared to stop at the tracks if a train is coming.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

49. Upon exiting the bus, students should be told to:

- Walk at least 10 feet away from the side of the bus to a position where the driver can plainly see all students.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Unloading Procedures on the Route

50. If you have missed a student's unloading stop:

- Do not back up; be sure to follow local procedures.

10 – Unloading Procedures on the Route

51. When you drive a vehicle with an anti-lock braking systems (ABS), you should:

- Brake as you always have.

10 – Braking with ABS

52. In an emergency situation, student safety and control is best maintained by:

- Keeping students on the bus during an emergency and/or impending crisis situation, if so doing does not expose them to unnecessary risk or injury.

10 – Planning for Emergencies

53. When considering evacuating students from the bus:

- Do not move a student you believe may have suffered a neck or spinal injury unless his or her life is in immediate danger.
- Special procedures must be used to move neck spinal injury victims to prevent further injury.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

54. If you must back your bus, the lookout should not:

- Give directions on how to back the bus.

10 – Backing

55. If your bus stalls or is trapped on the tracks:

- Get everyone out and off the tracks immediately.
- Move everyone far from the bus at an angle, which is both away from the tracks and toward the train.

10 – Special Situations

56. If there is a serious behavioral problem with a student:

- Stop the bus; park in a safe location off the road, perhaps a parking lot or a driveway.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Handling Serious Problems

57. In an emergency situation, a decision to evacuate should include consideration of the following conditions:

- Is there a fire or danger of fire?
- Is there a smell of raw or leaking fuel?
- Is there a chance the bus could be hit by other vehicles?
- Is the bus in the path of a sighted tornado or rising waters?
- Are there downed power lines?
- Would removing students expose them to speeding traffic, severe weather, or a dangerous environment such as downed power lines?
- Would moving students complicate injuries such as neck and back injuries and fractures?
- Is there a hazardous spill involved? Sometimes, it may be safer to remain on the bus and not come in contact with the material.

10 – Planning for Emergencies

58. The outside left and right side flat mirrors are used to:

- Monitor traffic, check clearances and students on the sides and to the rear of the bus.

10 – Outside Left and Right Side Flat Mirrors

59. Students have been injured or killed when clothing, accessories, or even parts of their body:

- Get caught in the handrail or door as they exited the bus.

10 – Special Dangers of Loading and Unloading

60. If the anti-lock braking systems (ABS) malfunction lamp stays on after the bulb check, or goes on once you are under way:

- You may have lost ABS control at one or more wheels.

10 – Braking if ABS is Not Working

61. The outside left and right side crossover mirrors presents a view of people and objects that:

- Does not accurately reflect their size and distance from the bus.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Tail Swing

62. To monitor the tail swing of your bus:

- You need to check your mirrors before and during any turning movements.

10 – Tail Swing

63. Passive railroad crossings:

- Do not have any type of traffic control device.

10 – Types of Crossings

64. If you must back-up at a student pick-up point, be sure to:

- Pick up students before backing and watch for late comers at all times.

10 – Backing

65. Even if there are active railroad signals that indicate the tracks are clear:

- You must look and listen to be sure it is safe to proceed.

10 – Special Situations

66. If a student should drop an object, he/she should be taught to:

- Leave any dropped object and move to a point of safety out of the danger zones and attempt to get the driver's attention to retrieve the object.

10 – Special Dangers of Loading and Unloading

67. You should position the overhead inside rearview mirror to see:

- The top of the rear window in the top of the mirror.
- All of the students, including the heads of the students right behind you.

10 – Overhead Inside Rearview Mirror

68. If the gate stays down after the train passes:

- Do not drive around the gate. Instead, call your dispatcher.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

69. School bus danger zones may extend as much as:

- 30 feet from the front bumper with the first 10 feet being the most dangerous.
- 10 feet from the left and right sides of the bus.
- 10 feet behind the rear bumper of the school bus.

10 – Danger Zones

70. Active railroad crossings:

- Have traffic control devices including flashing red lights, with or without bells and flashing red lights with bells and gates.

10 – Types of Crossings

71. When the road crosses over more than one set of tracks:

- A sign below the crossbuck indicates the number of tracks.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

72. To plan for emergencies, when possible, assign:

- Two responsible, older student assistants to each emergency exit.
- Assign another student assistant to lead the students to a “safe place” after evacuation.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

73. After ordering an evacuation of the bus:

- Direct a student assistant to lead students to the nearest safe place.
- Walk through the bus to ensure no students remain on the bus. Retrieve emergency equipment.
- Join waiting students. Account for all students and check for their safety.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

74. When loading or unloading students in the dark:

- The dome light should be on.

10 – Loading Procedures

75. When you drive a vehicle with ABS, you should brake as you always have. In other words:



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

- Use only the braking force necessary to stop safely and stay in control.
- Brake the same way, regardless of whether you have ABS on the bus. However, in emergency braking, do not pump the brakes on a bus with ABS.
- As you slow down, monitor your bus and back off the brakes (if it is safe to do so) to stay in control.

10 – Braking with ABS

76. If your anti-lock braking systems (ABS) should fail:

- You still have normal brake functions; drive and brake as you always have.

10 – Braking if ABS is Not Working

77. If there is a white line painted on the pavement before the railroad tracks:

- The front of the school bus must remain behind this line while stopped at the crossing.

10 – Warning Signs and Devices

78. The blind spot behind the bus extends:

- 50 to 150 feet and could extend up to 400 feet depending on the length and width of the bus.

10 – Outside Left and Right Side Flat Mirrors

79. In spite of the placement of the overhead inside rearview mirror, there is a blind spot:

- Directly behind the driver's seat.
- That begins at the rear bumper and could extend up to 400 feet or more behind the bus.

10 – Overhead Inside Rearview Mirror

80. If the bus is in the direct path of a sighted tornado and evacuation is ordered, escort students to:

- A nearby ditch or culvert if shelter in a building is not readily available, and direct them to lie face down, hands covering their head.
- They should be far enough away so the bus cannot topple on them.
- Avoid areas that are subject to flash floods.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

81. If there is a need to evacuate where fire is present:

- Lead students upwind of the bus.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Evacuation Procedures

82. While students are boarding, the driver should:

- Monitor all mirrors continuously.

10 – Loading Procedures

83. The convex mirrors present a view of people and objects that:

- Does not accurately reflect their size and distance from the bus.

10 – Outside Left and Right Side Convex Mirrors

84. When stopping at a school bus stop, place the transmission in:

- Park, or if there is no Park shift point, in Neutral and set the parking brake at each stop.

10 – Approaching the Stop

85. If older, responsible students are not on the bus at the time of the emergency:

- Emergency evacuation procedures must be explained to all students, including knowing how to operate the various emergency exits and the importance of listening to and following all instructions given by you.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

86. In regard to railroad crossings:

- Be especially careful at “passive” crossings that do not have any type of traffic control device.

10 – Special Situations

87. A safe place to evacuate students will be:

- At least 100 feet off the road in the direction of oncoming traffic. This will keep the students from being hit by debris if another vehicle collides with the bus.

10 – Evacuation Procedures

88. _____ is vital to the safe operation of the school bus in order to observe the danger zone around the bus and look for students, traffic, and other objects in this area.

- Proper adjustment and use of all mirrors



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Correct Mirror Adjustment

89. If there is a serious behavioral problem with a student:

- Never put a student off the bus except at school or at his or her designated school bus stop.

10 – Handling Serious Problems

90. When students are loading at the school campus, you should:

- Turn off the ignition switch.
- Remove key if leaving driver's compartment.
- Position yourself to supervise loading as required or recommended by your state or local regulations.

10 – Loading Procedures

91. It is imperative that you learn and obey the laws and regulations governing loading/unloading operations:

- In your state.

10 – Loading and Unloading

92. You should position the convex mirrors to see:

- The entire side of the bus up to the mirror mounts.
- Front of the rear tires touching the ground.
- At least one traffic lane on either side of the bus.

10 – Outside Left and Right Side Convex Mirrors

93. If there is a behavior problem on the bus:

- Concentrate on the driving task first; if necessary, pull the bus over to handle the problem.

10 – Don't Deal with On-bus Problems When Loading and Unloading

94. When your route or school activity trip is finished, you should walk through and around the bus looking for:

- Articles left on the bus.
- Sleeping students.
- Open windows and doors.
- Mechanical/operational problems with the bus, with special attention to items that are unique to school buses – mirror systems, flashing warning lamps and stop signal arms.
- Damage or vandalism.



DMV CHEATS and TIPS!

CALIFORNIA CDL SCHOOL BUS CHEAT SHEET

10 – Post-trip Inspection

95. When at a railroad track, stop:

- No closer than 15 feet and no farther than 50 feet from the nearest rail, where you have the best view of the tracks.

10 – Recommended Procedures

96. Anti-lock braking systems (ABS) will:

- Help maintain vehicle control, but won't always shorten stopping distance.
- Help to prevent a serious crash.

10 – Safety Reminders

97. The overhead inside rearview mirror is used to:

- Monitor passenger activity inside the bus.
- Provide limited visibility directly in back of the bus if the bus is equipped with a glass-bottomed rear emergency door.

10 – Overhead Inside Rearview Mirror

98. If your anti-lock braking systems (ABS) malfunctions:

- You still have regular brakes; drive normally, but get the system serviced soon.

10 – Braking if ABS is Not Working

99. In an emergency situation, determine the best type of evacuation:

- Front, rear or side door evacuation, or some combination of doors.
- Roof or window evacuation.

10 – Evacuation Procedures