

How To Slide Truck Axles To Make A Load Legal

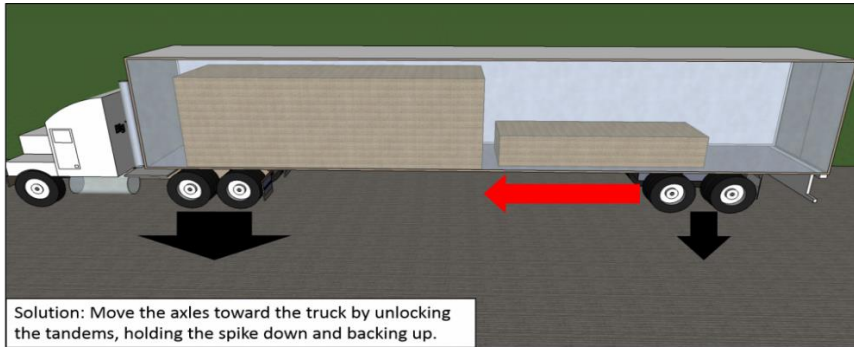
Steering= 12,000 lbs - Drive Axles= 34,000 lbs- Truck/ Trailer Single Axle= 20,000 lbs -Trailer Tandem Axles= 34,000 lbs

****If you are loading a backhaul of more than 34,000 Lbs, this process of weighing and making the load legal, is MANDATORY!!! The above weights are the maximum allowed on the axles with 80,000 lbs max gross total.**

If there is a load that is not distributed evenly in the trailer, the truck axles can be overweight, even though the entire truck is not overweight. In this case, the tandems should be 'pushed forward' so more weight would be put on the trailer axles. If the load is over 80,000 Lbs, it must be returned to the shipper's warehouse to adjust weight, as it cannot be made legal with sliding.

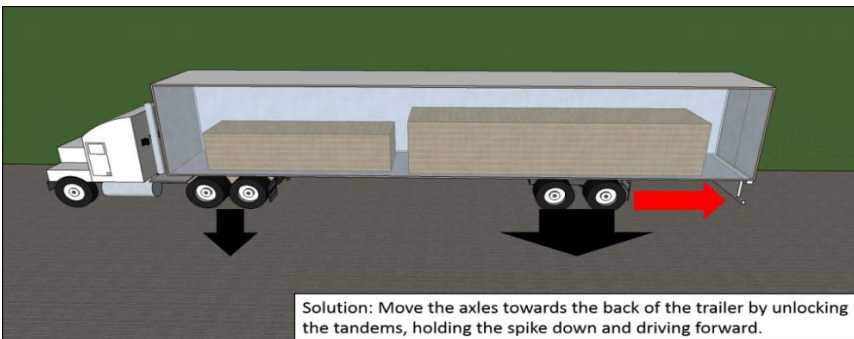
Let's see how this works in practice: ****Always set trailer brakes to slide axles! If you need help unlocking the slider, ask for it!**

Scenario 1: Heavy on the drive axles and light on the rear tandems.



Scenario 2:

Also, it is possible that there is too much weight on the trailer axles. In this case, the axles can be moved backwards to move weight from the trailer to the truck.



Caution! – There are rules governing how far back tandems can be placed. **California has a "Bridge Law" which states that the center of the rear tandem axle hub can be no more than 40 feet back from the kingpin on a 53 Ft trailer.** Most 53 Foot trailers are marked at the "40 Foot" mark. *****Check your local state restrictions for guidance, it is your responsibility to comply with laws*****

How far should you move the axles?

A good rule of thumb is that one hole on the trailer equals 250 – 300 Lbs being moved from the truck to trailer, or vice versa. The trailer tandems are slid to adjust both the drive axles and the tandem axle weights. The fifth wheel only adjusts the steering axle weight. A good rule of thumb for the fifth wheel is 100 Lbs per tooth/ slot on steering axle. **Set trailer brakes and lower landing gear to relieve pressure when sliding fifth wheel.**

Focus- Ensure that your truck weight is legal at all times! Drive to the nearest scale to check before leaving any warehouse!

Anticipate- Loads not always being legal from the warehouse that you loaded it. Also account for any added fuel weight.

Correct- Check the weight of your truck when the load weight(s) exceeds 37,000 Lbs, or exceeds 34,000 Lbs with liftgate(s).

Talk- Communicate any weight issues to Dispatch, along with any other necessary relay drivers for the trip.