

Pickup Cargo Tie-Down Checklist

Before the trip: record the object, the truck, and the real limits.

1 Describe this load

Item(s) and packaging

Measured or documented cargo weight (lb)

Long / wide / tall dimensions (in)

Truck make, model, year and VIN

Trip / destination and any overhang

2 Check vehicle and equipment

Actual door-label payload (lb)

Passengers, gear and added load (lb)

GVWR / rear GAWR / tire limits checked?

Manual-confirmed cargo anchor points

Anchor-point rating or manufacturer limit

Restraint WLL / manufacturer guidance

Do not substitute brochure payload or strap breaking strength for usable limits.

If ratings, cargo weight or anchor suitability are unknown, stop and verify before driving. A correct payload total does not certify the restraint system.

3 Stop / go screening

☐ Payload, axle and tire ratings confirmed

☐ Approved bed anchors identified

☐ Restraint labels readable; no damage

☐ Load shape and movement assessed

☐ Overhang and tailgate limits checked

☐ Applicable state rules verified

If any relevant box cannot be checked, mark STOP and choose a safer method.

☐ STOP / RECHECK

☐ READY FOR FINAL WALK-AROUND

Prevent movement in every direction

Complete the final walk-around with the loaded truck stationary.

4 Load behavior and restraint check

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Forward - restrained against hard braking | ☐ Backward - cannot escape tailgate |
| ☐ Sideways - cannot slide or tip in a turn | ☐ Upward - cannot bounce or lift |
| ☐ Rolling - chocks or blocking when needed | ☐ Edges - webbing protected from cuts |
| ☐ Cover - tarp or net fully secured | ☐ Loose items - no debris can blow out |
| ☐ Anchor hardware - correctly seated | ☐ Hooks and ratchets - no damage |
| ☐ Light/plate visibility - unobstructed | ☐ Departure recheck - plan made |

5 Three common pickup loads

FURNITURE	Prevent tipping and sliding; straps need verified anchors.
LUMBER / PANELS	Support the length; verify projections and marking rules.
YARD WASTE	Close bags, cover lightweight debris, secure the cover.

Final decision / unresolved issue:

Verified by: _____ Date: _____

AFTER DEPARTURE

At the first safe stop, recheck for movement, slack or a lifted cover.

If cargo shifts or rattles, pull over safely and correct it before continuing.

Do not continue with an unsecured load.