

General Mass Limits (GML)

What is GML?

General Mass Limits (GML) apply to all heavy vehicles. The GML state the allowable mass for all types of heavy vehicle axle groups unless the vehicle is operating under an accreditation or an exemption under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL).

▼ The table below describes the axle mass limits.

Note: All axles in an axle group must be load sharing (except for non-load sharing twin steer axle groups).

Table I.O
Axle mass limits

Description of single axle or axle group	Mass limit (t)
Single axles and single axle groups	
Steer axles on -	
a. a complying bus	6.5
aa. a complying steer axle vehicle	6.5
b. a hauling unit or prime mover forming part of a road train fitted with tyres with section widths of -	
i. at least 295mm	6.5
ii. at least 375mm	6.7
c. another motor vehicle	6.0
Single axle or single axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of -	
a. less than 375mm	6.0
b. at least 375mm but less than 450mm	6.7
c. at least 450mm	7.0
Single axle or single axle group fitted with dual tyres on -	
a. a pig trailer	8.5
b. a complying bus, or a bus authorised to carry standing passengers under an Australian road law	10
c. an ultra-low floor bus with no axle groups and only 2 single axles	11
d. another vehicle	9.0

Description of single axle or axle group	Mass limit (t)
Tandem axle group	
Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of -	
a. less than 375mm	11
b. at least 375mm but less than 450mm	13.3
c. at least 450mm	14
Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres on 1 axle and dual tyres on the other axle on -	
a. a complying bus	14
b. another motor vehicle	13
Tandem axle group fitted with dual tyres on -	
a. a pig trailer	15
b. another vehicle	16.5
Twinsteer axle groups	
Twinsteer axle group without a load-sharing suspension system	10
Twinsteer axle group with a load-sharing suspension system	11
Tri-axle groups	
Tri-axle group on a vehicle fitted with -	
a. single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm on all axles	15
b. single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	
Tri-axle group on a pig trailer fitted with -	
a. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on all axles	18
b. dual tyres on all axles	
c. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	
Tri-axle group on a vehicle other than a pig trailer fitted with -	
a. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on all axles	20
b. dual tyres on all axles	
c. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	

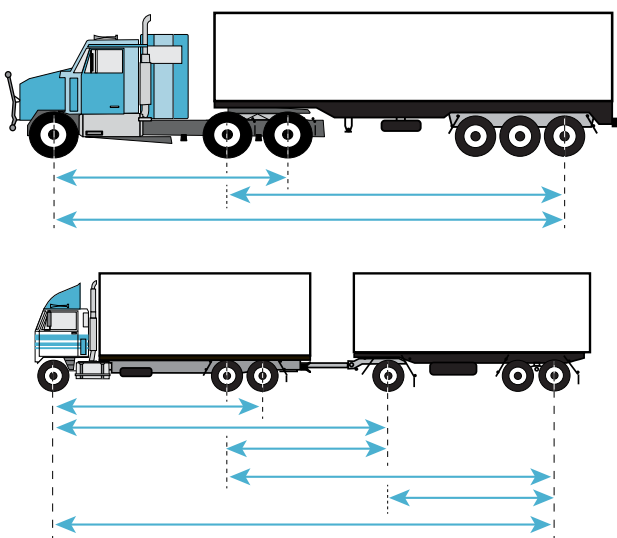
Description of single axle or axle group	Mass Limit (t)
Quad axle groups	
Quad-axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm	15
Quad-axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm or dual tyres	20

Mass limits axle spacing

Conforming vehicles must have at least the minimum axle group spacing. The below diagram shows the measurement points to determine mass limits axle spacing of a heavy vehicle, including the:

- › distance from the centre-line of single axle to the centre-line of another single axle;
- › distance from the centre-line of single axle to the centre-line of the furthest axle in any axle group
- › greatest distance between the centre-line of axles in any 2 axle groups.

Axle spacings of a heavy vehicle



For the mass limits please refer to Table 2-Axle Spacing Mass Limits General Table in the *Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation 2013*, Schedule 1 Part 2 at <https://www.nhvr.gov.au>

In addition, the loaded mass of a vehicle must not exceed the manufacturer’s rating, in particular the Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) for a rigid vehicle or the Gross Combination Mass (GCM) for combinations or Aggregate Trailer Mass (ATM) for trailers. Also the manufacturers mass rating on any component such as a tyre, wheel or axle must not be exceeded.

What documents must be carried in the vehicle?

No particular documents are required to be carried in the vehicle specific to GML.

However, if a vehicle combination requires a notice or permit to allow access to the road network, this permit or notice may be required to be carried in the vehicle.

How is compliance with GML monitored?

State and territory police and authorised officers monitor compliance with the HVNL.

About the NHVR

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is Australia’s dedicated independent regulator for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass.

The NHVR was created to administer one set of rules for heavy vehicles under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL), improve safety and productivity, minimise the compliance burden on the heavy vehicle transport industry and reduce duplication and inconsistencies across state and territory borders.

For more information

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