

Sample Pre-Trip Inspection of Heavy-Duty Straight Trucks

To be effective, a pre-trip inspection of a heavy-duty straight truck must be thorough and systematic and the individual performing the inspection must know what to look for. The following steps would be applicable to the inspection of a truck, starting at the cab and following a clockwise direction around the vehicle. The “Remarks” box should be checked for those items needing attention and details added in the “Remarks” section. Necessary repairs should be made before the vehicle is used.

General condition of the vehicle:

	YES	REMARKS	N/A
No visible leaks under vehicle; vehicle sitting evenly; no critical damage			
Review the previous driver’s vehicle inspection report, where available			
Engine compartment—check oil level, coolant level, windshield washing fluid, belts, hoses, etc., as directed by your company policy			

Apply parking brakes, start engine, and check:

	YES	REMARKS	N/A
Gauges; low air warning device should be on if air pressure is 60 psi or under; turn signal indicators; brake lights			
Air pressure buildup—4 minutes maximum from 50 psi to cutoff			
Apply service brakes—after initial pressure drop, loss less than 2 psi per minute			
Fan down brakes—low air pressure warning device activates at 60 psi			
Horn(s), windshield wipers, heater, defroster, and mirrors			
No excessive steering wheel play			
Emergency equipment—such as fire extinguisher, reflective triangles, and fuses			

Shut off engine, turn on all lights (including four-way flashers), ensure parking brakes are applied, and check:

	YES	REMARKS	N/A
No audible leaks in brake system during inspection			
Left side front tire, wheel, lugs or studs, and brake components			
Headlights—low- and high-beam, four-way flashers, identification, and clearance lights			
Steering assembly			
Front suspension			
Right-side front tire, wheel, lugs or studs, and brake components			
Right side fuel tank and cap			
Exhaust system			
Reflectors and lights on right side			
Door hinges and latching mechanism on right side			
Right rear tires, wheels, lugs or studs, and brake components			
Rear end protection, lights, reflectors, and mudflaps			
Door hinges and latching mechanism on rear doors			
Left rear tires, wheels, lugs or studs, and brake components			
Reflectors and lights on left side			
Door hinges and latching mechanism on left side doors			
Left side fuel tank and cap			

Remarks (use back of form if necessary): _____

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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