

Towing checklist

Print it, fold it, keep it in the door pocket, and tick it off in order every time you hitch up.

Before you hook up

- ☐ Licence, both licence discs and booking confirmation packed
- ☐ Code B up to 750 kg GVM, EB above
- ☐ Caravan GVM not over your tow vehicle's tare
- ☐ Caravan licence disc current, gas certificate seen
- ☐ Tread visible across every tyre, not at wear bars
- ☐ Tyre pressures cold to the caravan's plate, spare too
- ☐ Both red rear triangles present and clean
- ☐ Heavy items low over the axle, everything latched
- ☐ Nose weight between 25 and 100 kg
- ☐ Gas valve closed, appliances off, fridge on 12 V

Hitching

- ☐ Tow ball is the size the coupling wants
- ☐ Coupling fully down on the ball, handle locked
- ☐ Lift test: coupling must not come off the ball
- ☐ Breakaway cable through its guide, clipped to towbar eye
- ☐ Not around the jockey wheel, not over the ball
- ☐ Safety chains crossed under the coupling, slack for turning
- ☐ Jockey wheel fully up, swung clear and clamped
- ☐ Plug in, cable cannot drag or snag

- ☐ Helper checks indicators, brake, tail and number plate lights

Before you pull away

- ☐ Caravan handbrake fully off
- ☐ All four corner steadies up and pinned
- ☐ Chocks out, step in, door locked
- ☐ Extension mirrors fitted, clear view behind both sides
- ☐ Bakkie combination: 100 km/h sign on the caravan
- ☐ Plan on 100 km/h or less, whatever you drive

At every stop

- ☐ After the first 20 km, touch every wheel nut
- ☐ Feel each hub: one hot hub means stop
- ☐ Coupling still locked, breakaway cable still clipped
- ☐ Tyres looked over, stones out after gravel
- ☐ Mirrors still set, nothing shifted or leaking inside
- ☐ Wheel nuts again 50 km after any wheel work

Arriving

- ☐ Walk the stand, then reverse on while fresh
- ☐ Handbrake fully up, chocks at both wheels
- ☐ Level side to side first, still hitched
- ☐ Unhitch, then front to back with the jockey wheel
- ☐ Steadies down until they touch; they are not jacks