



Snowmobile Safety

Snowmobile Trailer Tips

Getting yourself and your machine to the trailhead safely is an important part of the sport, yet something people often overlook. Here's some handy information to help you get there safe and legally.

Hook it up safely

- ◆ Alberta law require a suitable hitch assembly; the rating capacities of the hitch and ball must be rated in excess of the attached trailer's weight.
- ◆ Trailers able to carry two sleds usually weigh less than 907 kg (2,000 lbs.) and require a Class I hitch and a 1-7/8" or 2" ball.
- ◆ Trailers capable of carrying four sleds are typically more than 907 kg (2,000 lbs.) and require a Class II or III hitch with a 2" ball.
- ◆ Ensure your tire pressure is correct.
- ◆ Place your spare tire, tire iron and jack where they are easily accessible.
- ◆ Load the sled onto the trailer properly most sleds loaded across the width of the trailer will exceed your maximum allowable width and will be unsafe for fellow road users.
- ◆ Use tie down straps, rods or clamps to secure the sled.
- ◆ Secure your snowmobile to deter theft with padlocks on the hitch and alarms and locks on the sleds. Record the engine serial number of your sled and keep in a safe place.

Make sure you're secure

- ◆ All trailers must have chains or cables attached to the tow vehicle as a secondary attachment in case the primary ball hitch fails.

Let them see you

- ◆ Every trailer requires tail lights, brake lights, turn signals, side markers (amber in front, red at rear) and license plate light. Identification lights (three red in the centre-rear of the trailer) are required if the trailer width exceeds 2.05m (6'9").

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Brake safe

- ◆ Trailers weighing less than 910 kg (2,006 lbs.) or are less than half the weight of the towing vehicle do not require brakes.
- ◆ Adequate brakes and a breakaway kit are required for trailers weighing more than 910 kg (2006 lbs.) or exceeding half the weight of the tow vehicle.

Register for the road

- ◆ Every trailer must be registered and have a license plate attached to the rear.

Hook it up. Hitch it on

Check your snowmobile trailer for safe travel before you head out.

If you have any suggestions on traffic safety issues that are of interest to you and your community, or for more information, please contact:

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