

## General Mass Limits (GML)

### What is GML?

General Mass Limits (GML) apply to all heavy vehicles. The GML states 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 1: Axle mass limits**

Description of single axle or axle group	Mass limit (t)
<b>Single axles and single axle group</b>	
<b>Steer axles on –</b>	
a. a complying bus that is not an eligible 2-axle bus or an eligible 3-axle 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	7.1
ba. an eligible 2-axle bus	7.0
bb. an eligible 3-axle bus	6.5
bc. Euro VI vehicle (complying steer axle)	7.0
bd. Euro VI vehicle (single steer axle)	6.5
c. another motor vehicle	6.0
<b>Single axle or single axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of -</b>	
a. less than 375mm	6.0
b. at least 375mm but less than 450mm	6.7
c. at least 450mm	7.0
<b>Single axle or single axle group fitted with dual tyres on -</b>	
a. a pig trailer	8.5

Description of single axle or axle group	Mass limit (t)
b. a complying bus, or a bus authorised to carry standing passengers under an Australian road law, that is not an eligible 2-axle bus	10.0
c. an ultra-low floor bus with no axle groups and only two single axles that is not an eligible 2-axle bus	11.0
ca. an eligible 2-axle bus	12.0
<b>Tandem axle group</b>	
<b>Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of -</b>	
a. less than 375mm	11.0
b. at least 375mm but less than 450mm	13.3
c. at least 450mm	14.0
<b>Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres on one axle and dual tyres on the other axle on -</b>	
a. a complying bus that is not an eligible 3-axle bus	14.0
aa. an eligible 3-axle bus with tyres on the axle fitted with single tyres that have a section width of at least 295mm	15.5
b. another motor vehicle	13.0
<b>Tandem axle group fitted with dual tyres on -</b>	
a. a pig trailer	15.0
b. another vehicle	16.5
<b>Twinsteer axle groups</b>	
Twinsteer axle group without a load-sharing suspension system	10.0
Twinsteer axle group with a load-sharing suspension system	11.0
Euro VI vehicle (twinsteer)	11.5
<b>Tri-axle groups</b>	
<b>Tri-axle group on a vehicle fitted with -</b>	
a. single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm on all axles	15.0
b. single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	15.0

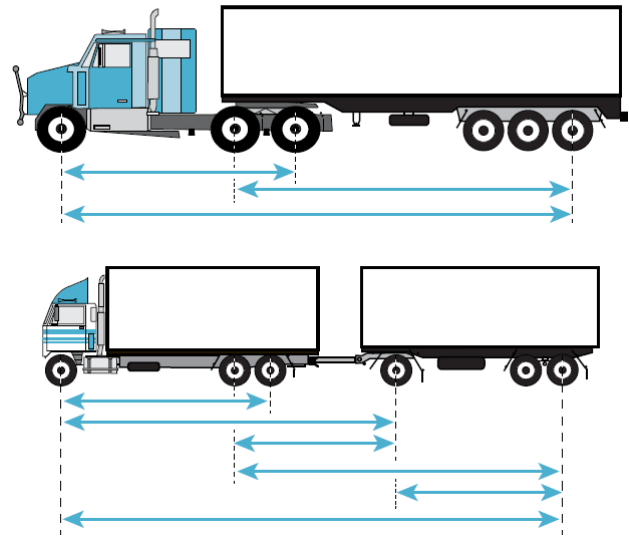
Description of single axle or axle group	Mass limit (t)
<b>Tri-axle group on a pig trailer fitted with -</b>	
a. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on all axles	18.0
b. dual tyres on all axles	
c. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	
<b>Tri-axle group on a vehicle other than a pig trailer fitted with -</b>	
a. single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on all axles	20.0
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	
<b>Quad-axle groups</b>	
Quad-axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm	15.0
Quad-axle group fitted with single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm or dual tyres	20.0
<b>Axle groups of five or more -</b>	
a. rear group of five or more axles on a low loader fitted with single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm	15.0
b. Any other rear group of 5 or more axles on a low loader	20.0

### 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.

#### For more information:

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