
Cargo Securement

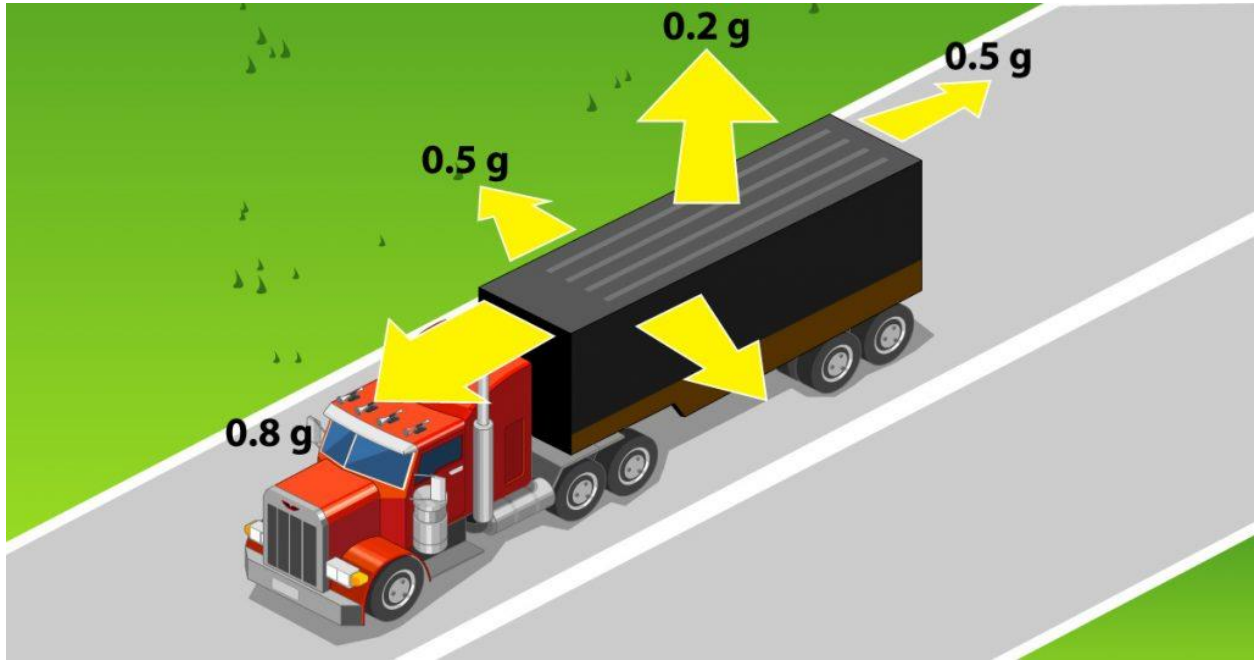
Improperly secured cargo can cause cargo to shift, resulting in trailer sway or additional stress on the trailer and tow vehicle as well as the possibility of losing cargo on the roadway, creating a danger for other drivers. The information below will also touch on compliance with federal safety regulation applicable to commercial operations.

TIPS FOR PROPERLY SECURING YOUR LOAD

- Ensure your tie-downs are properly rated for the load they are meant to secure.
- Inspect all tie-downs for wear and damage, replacing when worn or damaged.
- Make sure that your cargo does not require special precautions or securing.
- A good rule of thumb is one tie-down is used for every ten feet of cargo, using two tie-downs to secure any piece of cargo regardless of length. **View the [Cargo Equipment page for more information.](#)**
- Cargo must be firmly immobilized and secured on or within a trailer; this includes tools, equipment, chains, spare tires, etc. Large objects should be tied down directly to the trailer.
- An enclosed trailer may not be sufficient for securing your load, additional securement is likely necessary to prevent shifting during transit.
- Bungee cords and tarp straps must not be used as primary securement for loads or equipment.
- Tie-downs should be secured lower on the trailer, not near the top rails.
- Tie-downs should be attached and secured in a manner that prevents it from becoming loose, unfastening, opening or releasing while in transit.
- Cargo straps can loosen with vibrations of the road, check early in your trip to ensure the attachments are still properly secured and regularly throughout the trip. **Commercial regulations** require an inspection within the first 50 miles of a trip and at regular intervals thereafter. ([49 CFR §392.9 \(b\) \(2\)](#))
- Always make sure your load is properly contained, immobilized and secured so that it cannot leak, spill, blow off, fall from, fall through or otherwise be dislodged from the trailer, or shift upon or within the trailer so that the trailer's stability or maneuverability is affected. Loads that shift can not only cause crashes but can also damage your trailer and towing vehicle.
- Ensure cargo does not obscure the driver's view.

Remember, you are securing the load for sudden stops and trailer sway, not just for normal driving conditions.

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Safety Brief

Cargo Securement

This form documents that the training specified above was presented to the listed participants. By signing below, each participant acknowledges receiving this training.

Organization: _____ Date: _____

Trainer: _____ Trainer's Signature: _____

Class Participants:

Name: _____ Signature: _____

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