

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, DOT §393.11

Table 1 of 393.11- Required Lamps and Reflectors on Commercial Motor Vehicles

Item	Quantity	Color	Location	Position	Height above road surface measured from the center of the lamp at curb weight
Tail lamps	2	Red	Rear	One lamp on each side of the vertical centerline at the same height and as far apart as practicable	Both on the same level between 15 inches and 72 inches.
Stop lamps See footnote #13	2	Red	Rear	One lamp on each side of the vertical centerline at the same height and as far apart as practicable.	Both on the same level between 15 inches and 72 inches.
Rear Turn signal lamp See footnote #12	2	Amber or Red	Rear	One lamp on each side of the vertical centerline as far apart as practicable	Both on the same level, between 15 inches and 83 inches.
Rear reflex reflector	2	Red	Rear	One on each side of the vertical centerline, as far apart as practicable and at the same height.	Both on the same level, between 15 inches and 60 inches.
Rear Side marker lamp See footnote #4	2	Red	One on each side	As far to the rear as practicable	Not less than 15 inches, and on the rear of trailers not more than 60 inches.
Rear side reflex reflector	2	Red	One on each side at rear	As far to the rear as practicable	Both on the same level, between 15 inches and 60 inches.
Front Side marker lamp See footnote #16	2	Amber	One on each side	As far to the front as practicable	Not less than 15 inches
Front side Reflex reflector See footnote #16	2	Amber	One on each side at front	As far to the front as practicable	Between 15 inches and 60 inches.
License plate lamp	1	White	At rear license plate to illuminate the plate from the top or sides.		No requirements

Over 80 in. wide

Identification lamp (rear) See footnotes #3 & 15	3	Red	Rear	One as close as practicable to the vertical centerline. One on each side with lamp centers spaced not less than 6 inches or more than 12 inches apart.	All three on the same level as close as practicable to the top of the vehicle.
Clearance lamps. See footnotes #9 & 15	2	Amber	One on each side of the front of the vehicle	One on each side of the vertical centerline to indicate overall width.	Both on the same level as high as practicable.

Clearance lamps. See footnotes #9 & 15	2	Red	One on each side of the rear of the vehicle	One on each side of the vertical centerline to indicate overall width.	Both on the same level as high as practicable.
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30' or longer

Intermediate Side Reflex reflector	2	Amber	One on each side	At or near the midpoint between the front and rear side marker lamps, if the length of the vehicle is more than 30 feet.	Between 15 inches and 60 inches.
Side marker lamp intermediate	2	Amber	One on each side	At or near the midpoint between the front and rear side marker lamps, if the length of the vehicle is more than 30 feet.	Not less than 15 inches

Footnote—3 The identification lamps need not be visible or lighted if obscured by a vehicle in the same combination.

Footnote—4 Any semitrailer or full trailer manufactured on or after March 1, 1979, shall be equipped with rear side-marker lamps at a height of not less than 381 mm (15 inches), and on the rear of trailers not more than 1,524 mm (60 inches) above the road surface, as measured from the center of the lamp on the vehicle at curb weight.

Footnote—9 Any motor vehicle transporting a load which extends more than 102 mm (4 inches) beyond the overall width of the motor vehicle shall be equipped with the following lamps in addition to other required lamps when operated during the hours when headlamps are required to be used.

- (1) The foremost edge of that portion of the load which projects beyond the side of the vehicle shall be marked (at its outermost extremity) with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.
- (2) The rearmost edge of that portion of the load which projects beyond the side of the vehicle shall be marked (at its outermost extremity) with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.
- (3) If the projecting load does not measure more than 914 mm (3 feet) from front to rear, it shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front, both sides, and rear, except that if the projection is located at or near the rear it shall be marked by a red lamp visible from front, side, and rear.

Footnote—12 Every bus, truck, and truck tractor shall be equipped with a signaling system that, in addition to signaling turning movements, shall have a switch or combination of switches that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear signals to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic signal warning, required by § 392.22(a). The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the ignition of the vehicle on or off.

Footnote—13 To be actuated upon application of service brakes.

Footnote—15

- (1) For the purposes of § 393.11, the term “overall width” refers to the nominal design dimension of the widest part of the vehicle, exclusive of the signal lamps, marker lamps, outside rearview mirrors, flexible fender extensions, and mud flaps.

(2) Clearance lamps may be mounted at a location other than on the front and rear if necessary to indicate the overall width of a vehicle, or for protection from damage during normal operation of the vehicle.

(3) On a trailer, the front clearance lamps may be mounted at a height below the extreme height if mounting at the extreme height results in the lamps failing to mark the overall width of the trailer.

(4) On a truck tractor, clearance lamps mounted on the cab may be located to indicate the width of the cab, rather than the width of the vehicle.

(5) When the rear identification lamps are mounted at the extreme height of a vehicle, rear clearance lamps are not required to be located as close as practicable to the top of the vehicle.

Footnote—16 A trailer subject to this part that is less than 1829 mm (6 feet) in overall length, including the trailer tongue, need not be equipped with front side marker lamps and front side reflex reflectors.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, DOT §393.11

(b) Conspicuity Systems. Each trailer of 2,032 mm (80 inches) or more overall width, and with a GVWR over 4,536 kg (10,000 pounds), manufactured on or after December 1, 1993, except pole trailers and trailers designed exclusively for living or office use, shall be equipped with either retroreflective sheeting that meets the requirements of FMVSS No. 108 (S5.7.1), reflex reflectors that meet the requirements FMVSS No. 108 (S5.7.2), or a combination of retroreflective sheeting and reflex reflectors that meet the requirements of FMVSS No. 108 (S5.7.3).

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, DOT §393.13

§ 393.13 Retroreflective sheeting and reflex reflectors, requirements for semitrailers and trailers manufactured before December 1, 1993.

(a) Applicability. All trailers and semitrailers manufactured prior to December 1, 1993, which have an overall width of 2,032 mm (80 inches) or more and a gross vehicle weight rating of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more, except trailers that are manufactured exclusively for use as offices or dwellings, pole trailers (as defined in §390.5 of this subchapter), and trailers transported in a driveaway-towaway operation, must be equipped with retroreflective sheeting or an array of reflex reflectors that meet the requirements of this section.

(c) Locations for retroreflective sheeting—

(1) *Sides*. Retroreflective sheeting shall be applied to each side of the trailer or semitrailer. Each strip of retroreflective sheeting shall be positioned as horizontally as practicable, beginning and ending as close to the front and rear as practicable. The strip need not be continuous but the sum of the length of all of the segments shall be at least half of the length of the trailer and the spaces between the segments of the strip shall be distributed as evenly as practicable. The centerline for each strip of retroreflective sheeting shall be between 375 mm (15 inches) and 1,525 mm (60 inches) above the road surface when measured with the trailer empty or unladen, or as close as practicable to this area.

(2) *Lower rear area*. The rear of each trailer and semitrailer must be equipped with retroreflective sheeting. Each strip of retroreflective sheeting shall be positioned as horizontally as practicable, extending across the full width of the trailer, beginning and ending as close to the extreme edges as practicable. The centerline for each of the strips of retroreflective sheeting shall be between 375 mm (15 inches) and 1,525 mm (60 inches) above the road surface when measured with the trailer empty or unladen, or as close as practicable to this area.

(3) *Upper rear area.* Two pairs of white strips of retroreflective sheeting, each pair consisting of strips 300 mm (12 inches) long, must be positioned horizontally and vertically on the right and left upper corners of the rear of the body of each trailer and semitrailer, as close as practicable to the top of the trailer and as far apart as practicable. If the perimeter of the body, as viewed from the rear, is not square or rectangular, the strips may be applied along the perimeter, as close as practicable to the uppermost and outermost areas of the rear of the body on the left and right sides.