Pre-Trip and Trailer Condition (EIR) Checklist

Before you leave a yard with someone else's trailer · walk it, photograph it, get it on the receipt

ONE PER TRAILER

Trailer # _____ Plate / state _____ Yard _____ Date / time _____

Before you walk

- ☐ Trailer number on the nose matches the load sheet, rate con or pickup number.
- ☐ Trailer plate and state noted. Plate present and current.
- ☐ Seal number on the door matches the BOL (if preloaded). Photograph it before you touch it.
- ☐ Last DVIR or defect note for the trailer reviewed, if the yard hands one over.

Nose and coupling

- ☐ Upper fifth wheel: glide plate secure to the trailer frame, kingpin not bent or damaged.
- ☐ Gladhands and seals present, not cracked. Air lines free of cuts and leaks once charged.
- ☐ 7-way receptacle intact, pins not corroded. Cord plugs in and latches.
- ☐ Landing gear: no bent legs or missing parts, crank handle present and secured.

Each side (left, then right)

- ☐ Tires: inflated, at least 2/32 inch tread in every major groove, no cuts, bulges or fabric showing, duals not touching.
- ☐ Wheels and rims: no missing, bent or broken lugs, studs or clamps (rust streaks at lug nuts can mean loose nuts). Hub seals not leaking.
- ☐ Suspension: springs, hangers, u-bolts and air bags not broken, cracked or leaking.
- ☐ Brakes: drums not cracked, hoses not chafed, slack adjusters not hanging loose.
- ☐ Side marker lights and reflectors present, clean, right color (amber, red at the rear).
- ☐ Floor, crossmembers and side panels: holes, cracks, fresh damage (photograph).
- ☐ Tandem slider pins all present and locked.

Photo naming

`TRAILER_YYYYMMDD_HHMM_POSITION_NN.jpg`
`e.g. TRL53817_20261102_0642_LF-TIRE_01.jpg`

`NOSE` Front of trailer, number and plate in frame
`LF / RF` Left front and right front corners
`LS / RS` Left side and right side, full length
`LR / RR` Left rear and right rear corners, tires and lights
`REAR` Doors closed, seal and lights in frame
`SEAL` Close-up of the seal number
`DMG` Each damage item, with a hand or glove for scale
`EIR` The signed receipt or the screen showing it

Condensed from the Oregon DMV CDL Manual. Your state manual, the trailer owner's terms and your carrier's procedures come first. General information, not legal or safety-compliance advice.

Rear

- ☐ Tail, brake, turn and clearance lights clean and working (red at the rear).
- ☐ Rear doors close and latch, hinges and lock rods intact.
- ☐ Splash guards present, not dragging or rubbing tires.
- ☐ Rear impact guard (ICC bar) not bent or hanging.

Air and brake check after coupling

- ☐ Trailer air supply pushed in, no leak heard at the gladhands or under the trailer.
- ☐ Trailer emergency brakes hold on a gentle tug with the supply pulled.
- ☐ Trailer service brakes come on with the hand valve while rolling slowly.

`EIR FIELDS TO CHECK BEFORE THE GATE`

- ☐ Equipment ID: trailer number and owner prefix, plate and state. Chassis number too if it is a container on a chassis.
- ☐ Date, time and location of the interchange (ingate or outgate, yard name).
- ☐ Your carrier name, SCAC or USDOT number, tractor number and your name.
- ☐ Seal number (if loaded) exactly as on the door and the BOL.
- ☐ Damage section: every dent, hole, missing light, flat tire or cracked panel you found is written down, or the receipt says damage is captured on recorded images.
- ☐ Load status: empty or loaded, and reefer set point if it is a reefer.
- ☐ Signatures or the electronic equivalent. Get your copy before you leave the gate.

Damage found? Photograph it, write it on the EIR and call dispatch before you hook. Do not drive a trailer with a defect that makes it unsafe (49 CFR 392.7, 396.13).

Sources

Oregon CDL Manual 2.1.5 (checked 2026-11-02): https://www.oregon.gov/odot/DMV/Pages/Online_CDL_Manual_2/Section_2.aspx

Oregon CDL Manual 6.5.1 (checked 2026-11-02): https://www.oregon.gov/odot/DMV/Pages/Online_CDL_Manual_2/Section_6.aspx

49 CFR 392.7 (checked 2026-11-02): https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-392/subpart-A/section-392.7

49 CFR 396.13 (checked 2026-11-02): https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-396/section-396.13

UIIA C.15, D.2 (checked 2026-11-02): https://uiia.intermodal.org/documents/uiia/newuiia-legal.pdf