



INSPECTION GUIDES: TRUCKS

INTRODUCTION

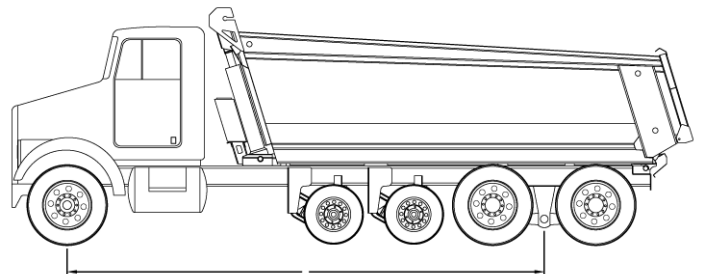
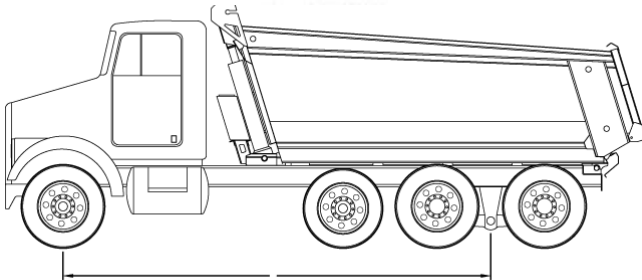
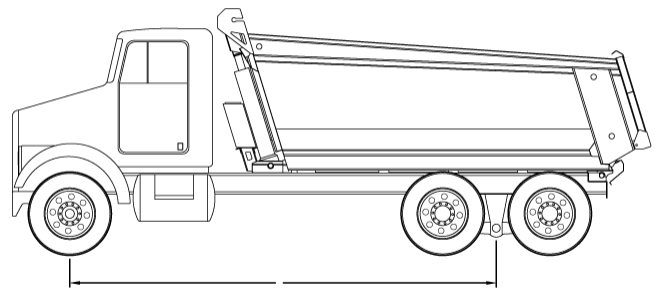
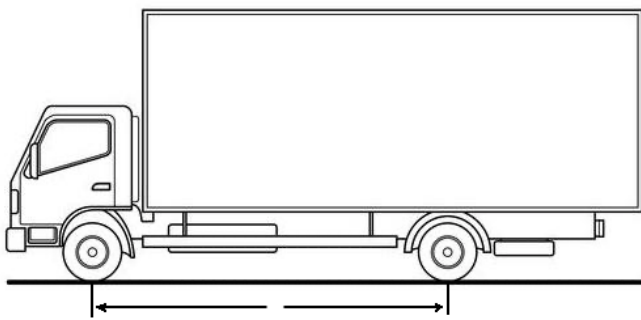
Quality trucks are in high demand and usually sell quickly. Therefore trucks of all types are a primary focus here at Iron Surplus when it comes to inventory. There are many similarities between the types but each type has their own unique features/specifications. Because there are so many types and variations/builds when it comes to trucks buyers need to filter down search results when searching online using these specifications. This guide will help you determine the type and recognize important details when inspecting and listing trucks.



KEY POINTS OF INTEREST WHEN INSPECTING VARIOUS TYPES OF TRUCKS.

1. WHEELBASE

Wheelbase is the distance between the center of the front axle to the center of the rear axle or set of axles. It is important to note that the float axles are not considered when measuring wheelbase. See the examples below displaying how to properly measure the wheelbase of trucks with single and multiple rear axles.



*Note: The wheelbase can also sometimes be found on the ID stickers or plates located in the driver's side doorjamb of the vehicle.



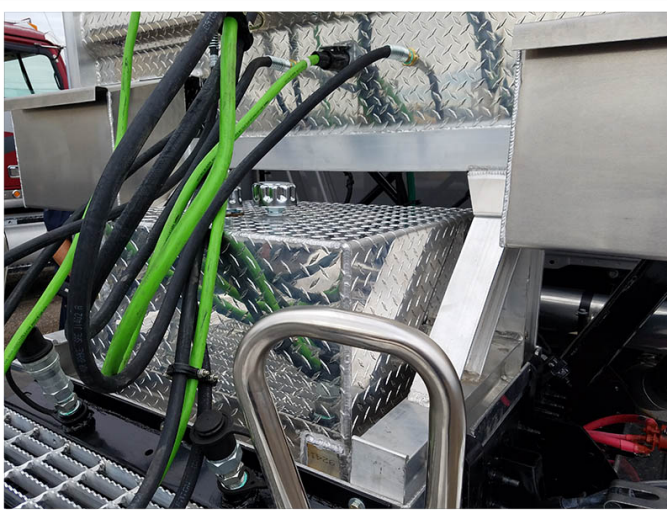
2. PTO - (POWER TAKE OFF)

The “PTO”, short for power-take-off is a feature found on many different types of trucks. The PTO takes power from the truck’s engine and transfers it to additional equipment like a hydraulic or water pump. This can then be used to power crane booms, lowboy trailers, garbage truck compactors, dump bodies, etc. There are several types of switches, levers and buttons used to activate the PTO system that can usually be found in the cab, but are located elsewhere in some units. See images below for some examples of a PTO switch.



3. WET KIT

Trucks with a PTO are often equipped with a “Wet Kit”. A wet kit is used in conjunction with a hydraulic pump powered by the truck’s PTO system. A wet kit is basically a hydraulic reservoir and hoses that supply pressure to hydraulic rams. Some examples of wet kit uses are detachable lowboy trailers, bulk (dump) trailers, trailers equipped with grapples, etc.



**Note: Sometimes the reservoir may be mounted underneath the truck and may not be easily visible.*

4. HEADACHE RACK

A Headache Rack is a safety feature found on many trucks large and small. They are designed to protect the vehicle's occupants from shifting loads. They are mounted to the truck's frame just behind the cab. Many headache racks also provide additional storage for chains, binders, tools, etc.



5. POWERTRAIN

In automotive engineering, the **drivetrain** (also frequently spelled as "drive train" or sometimes "drive-train") is the group of components of a motor vehicle that deliver power to the drive wheels. This excludes the engine or motor that generates the power.

In contrast, the **powertrain** is considered to include both the engine and/or motor(s) as well as the drivetrain.

Engine make, model, horsepower and displacement along with transmission make, model, type, number of speeds are crucial information to buyers. The axle/differential specifications such as weight rating (GVWR) and gear ratio should also be noted. This information can usually be found on the sticker/plate located on the driver's side doorjamb.

COMMON TRUCK TYPES

CONVENTIONAL DAY CAB

Conventional Day Cab trucks are designed for hauling trailers of different types around a local area. They do not have a sleeping area for the driver.



CONVENTIONAL WITH SLEEPER CAB

Conventional Trucks with “Sleeper Cabs” are designed for hauling trailers of different types over long distances and have a sleeping area for the driver. When listing this type note the following details.

- Sleeper size and contents such as number of bunks, TV, Refrigerator, etc.



CAB-OVER TRUCKS

Cab-Over trucks have a cab mounted directly over the truck’s engine providing better visibility for the driver. Cab-Over truck’s come in both day cab and sleeper models.



CRANE TRUCKS

Often called “Boom Trucks”, these truck mounted cranes are widely used because of their mobility. When listing Crane Trucks it’s important to look at the truck and crane portions as two separate entities. You will need to get the information for the truck such as wheelbase, etc., and the crane details such as make, boom length, lift capacity, number of outriggers, etc. See the Crane Inspection Guide for more information regarding the crane portion of crane trucks.



BUCKET/BOOM TRUCKS

Bucket or “Boom” trucks are used for lifting personnel allowing them to safely do elevated work. These types are commonly used by electrical contractors, power companies and sign companies. When listing this type note the following.

- Working height.
- number of outriggers.



GRAPPLE TRUCKS

Grapple trucks are equipped with a hydraulic crane and rotating grapple. They often have a bed with walls that can be loaded with the grapple. They are most often used for forestry and debris removal.



ROLL-OFF TRUCKS

Roll-Off Trucks are used to transport portable roll-off waste collection containers. These trucks are primarily in the medium size truck category but can vary. When listing roll-off trucks you should note the following details.

- Frame length (rear of cab to taillights).



REAR DISCHARGE CONCRETE MIXERS

Rear Discharge Concrete Mixer trucks are the most commonly used type of mixer trucks used today.



FRONT DISCHARGE CONCRETE MIXERS

Front Discharge Concrete Mixer trucks are designed to decrease the time that it takes for the driver to unload. Front discharge mixers are typically more expensive than rear discharge units.



CAB & CHASSIS TRUCKS

Cab and chassis trucks are incomplete trucks. This allows the truck to be customized with various bed types, cranes, etc. ("Cab-over" model shown but come with several cab types and sizes).



DUMP TRUCKS

Dump trucks have been in especially high demand over the last few years now. When listing a dump truck be sure to specify the following information:

- Number of rear axles (tandem, tri-axle, quad-axle, etc.).
- Load Capacity (bed).
- Bed dimensions and composition (Steel, Aluminum, etc.).

- Tank capacity



OFF ROAD DUMP TRUCKS

Off Road Dump trucks are large rugged dump trucks designed for off road use on rugged terrain. When listing off road dump trucks be sure to specify the following information:

- Articulation



CHIPPER TRUCKS

Often incorrectly referred to as a “box truck” these trucks have a hydraulic bed for dumping and a rear door for loading. These trucks are often seen with a chipper unit in tow.



TANK TRUCKS

Tank trucks are used for transporting various liquids such as water, fuel, oil, etc. When listing a dump truck be sure to specify the following information:



ROLLBACK TOW TRUCKS

Roll back tow trucks are equipped with a hydraulic tilting bed and are used in towing and vehicle recovery.



WRECKER TOW TRUCKS

Roll back truck are equipped with a hydraulic lift system, come in various sizes and are used in towing and vehicle recovery.



SERVICE/MECHANIC TRUCKS

Service/Mechanic Trucks come in various sizes. This mechanic's shop on wheels have several toolboxes and can come equipped with cranes, air compressors, generators, etc.

