

FREE LOGISTICS & WAREHOUSING PRE-TRIP VEHICLE INSPECTION TEMPLATE

Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection Checklist

Use this 60-point checklist before departure to verify exterior condition, cab controls, brakes, steering, tires and wheels, lights, engine and fluids, coupling and trailer condition, cargo securement, emergency equipment, repair-before-dispatch actions, and final release.

Fleet / site

Inspection date

Vehicle / trailer ID

Driver / inspector

Internal Logistics & Warehousing template. Apply manufacturer instructions, the fleet maintenance and roadworthiness programme, commercial-motor-vehicle rules where applicable, cargo-securement requirements, periodic inspection requirements, local transport rules, and qualified technician judgment.

1. Vehicle identity, route or duty, driver details, previous defects, repair status, and pre-trip scope

- 1
- Confirm fleet or site, vehicle registration or unit number, VIN or chassis identifier where used, vehicle type, inspection date, and pre-trip inspection type are recorded.
- CRITICAL
- PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: A pre-trip inspection begins with the exact vehicle, trailer, route, load, and unresolved defect history. Do not rely on memory when prior safety defects or repairs exist.

- 2
- Record odometer or mileage, engine hours where applicable, route or duty, driver or inspector, fleet owner, and maintenance owner.
-
- PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: A pre-trip inspection begins with the exact vehicle, trailer, route, load, and unresolved defect history. Do not rely on memory when prior safety defects or repairs exist.

- 3
- Confirm whether the inspection covers the power unit only, trailer only, vehicle-and-trailer combination, or another fleet configuration.
- CRITICAL
- PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: A pre-trip inspection begins with the exact vehicle, trailer, route, load, and unresolved defect history. Do not rely on memory when prior safety defects or repairs exist.

- 4
- Review the latest defect report, driver-reported issues, open maintenance work orders, roadside findings, breakdowns, and significant recent repairs before departure.
- CRITICAL
- PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: A pre-trip inspection begins with the exact vehicle, trailer, route, load, and unresolved defect history. Do not rely on memory when prior safety defects or repairs exist.

- 5
- For FMCSA-regulated commercial motor vehicles, review the last required vehicle inspection report where applicable and verify required repair certification before driving.
- CRITICAL
- PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: A pre-trip inspection begins with the exact vehicle, trailer, route, load, and unresolved defect history. Do not rely on memory when prior safety defects or repairs exist.

- 6
- Record the pre-trip serviceability status used by the fleet, such as serviceable, repair before departure, restricted use, or out of service.
- CRITICAL
- PRE-TRIP

FINAL STATUS | Enter

FLEET OWNER | Enter

MAINTENANCE APPROVAL | Enter

DISPATCH RELEASE | Enter

Execution tip: A pre-trip inspection begins with the exact vehicle, trailer, route, load, and unresolved defect history. Do not rely on memory when prior safety defects or repairs exist.

2. Exterior walkaround, body, chassis, leaks, doors, steps, mirrors, glass, and visible vehicle condition

7

Walk around the entire vehicle and inspect body panels, chassis, frame, bumpers, guards, mudguards, side protection, steps, handles, and exterior mounts for visible damage or looseness.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Complete a full walkaround before entering the cab. Look for fresh impact damage, leaks, loose components, open compartments, damaged doors, and anything likely to detach or...

8

Check under the vehicle and around wheel positions for fresh oil, fuel, coolant, hydraulic, brake, transmission, or other fluid leakage.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Complete a full walkaround before entering the cab. Look for fresh impact damage, leaks, loose components, open compartments, damaged doors, and anything likely to detach or...

9

Inspect cab doors, cargo doors, tailgates, side doors, shutters, liftgates, compartment doors, hinges, locks, and latches for secure closure.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Complete a full walkaround before entering the cab. Look for fresh impact damage, leaks, loose components, open compartments, damaged doors, and anything likely to detach or...

10

Check windshield, side glass, mirrors, camera housings where used, sun visors, and exterior visibility surfaces for cracks, obstruction, damage, or poor adjustment.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Complete a full walkaround before entering the cab. Look for fresh impact damage, leaks, loose components, open compartments, damaged doors, and anything likely to detach or...

11

Verify registration plates, fleet markings, reflective markings, permits, placards, and other required external identification are present and legible where applicable.

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Complete a full walkaround before entering the cab. Look for fresh impact damage, leaks, loose components, open compartments, damaged doors, and anything likely to detach or...

12

Escalate fresh structural damage, active fluid leaks, loose exterior components, failed doors or latches, severely damaged glass, or other visible defects that could affect safe operation.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: Complete a full walkaround before entering the cab. Look for fresh impact damage, leaks, loose components, open compartments, damaged doors, and anything likely to detach or...

3. Cab, seat and restraint, horn, wipers, washers, gauges, warning indicators, mirrors, and driver controls

13

Inspect driver seat, seat adjustment, seat belt or restraint, cab floor, entry steps, grab handles, door latch, and driver access for secure condition.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: FMCSA 49 CFR 392.7 identifies horn, windshield wipers, rear-vision mirrors, brakes, steering, tires, lighting, coupling devices, wheels/rims, and emergency equipment among the...

14

Test horn and check turn-signal, hazard-warning, headlight, parking-brake, and other primary driver controls for normal operation.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: FMCSA 49 CFR 392.7 identifies horn, windshield wipers, rear-vision mirrors, brakes, steering, tires, lighting, coupling devices, wheels/rims, and emergency equipment among the...

15

Test windshield wipers, washers, demisting or defogging functions where fitted, and inspect wiper blades and arms for damage affecting visibility.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: FMCSA 49 CFR 392.7 identifies horn, windshield wipers, rear-vision mirrors, brakes, steering, tires, lighting, coupling devices, wheels/rims, and emergency equipment among the...

16

Check mirrors and authorized camera-based rear-vision systems for cleanliness, alignment, image quality, damage, and suitable field of view.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: FMCSA 49 CFR 392.7 identifies horn, windshield wipers, rear-vision mirrors, brakes, steering, tires, lighting, coupling devices, wheels/rims, and emergency equipment among the...

17

Review dashboard gauges and warning indicators for brake, ABS, air pressure, oil pressure, coolant temperature, battery or charging, engine, emissions, and other active faults.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: FMCSA 49 CFR 392.7 identifies horn, windshield wipers, rear-vision mirrors, brakes, steering, tires, lighting, coupling devices, wheels/rims, and emergency equipment among the...

18

Escalate damaged restraints, failed horn or wipers, inadequate driver visibility, critical warning indicators, defective controls, or other cab conditions affecting safe operation.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: FMCSA 49 CFR 392.7 identifies horn, windshield wipers, rear-vision mirrors, brakes, steering, tires, lighting, coupling devices, wheels/rims, and emergency equipment among the...

4. Service brakes, parking brake, air or hydraulic system, trailer brake connections, ABS, and braking readiness

19

Check service-brake response through the fleet's approved pre-trip method and identify pulling, delayed response, abnormal pedal travel, vibration, warning lights, or other concerns.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: For FMCSA-regulated CMVs, service brakes including trailer brake connections and the parking brake are specifically included in the pre-trip safe-operation list.

20

Verify the parking brake applies and releases correctly and holds the vehicle under the approved inspection method.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: For FMCSA-regulated CMVs, service brakes including trailer brake connections and the parking brake are specifically included in the pre-trip safe-operation list.

21

Inspect visible brake hoses, lines, chambers, hydraulic connections, air lines, glad hands, trailer brake connections, and related components for leakage, abrasion, or damage.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: For FMCSA-regulated CMVs, service brakes including trailer brake connections and the parking brake are specifically included in the pre-trip safe-operation list.

22

Where applicable, check air-pressure build-up, low-air warning, air leakage, compressor cut-in or cut-out indications, and other air-brake checks under the approved vehicle procedure.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: For FMCSA-regulated CMVs, service brakes including trailer brake connections and the parking brake are specifically included in the pre-trip safe-operation list.

23

Review ABS, brake-system, trailer ABS, hydraulic warning, or other brake-related indicators and confirm no unresolved safety fault is present.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: For FMCSA-regulated CMVs, service brakes including trailer brake connections and the parking brake are specifically included in the pre-trip safe-operation list.

24

Escalate ineffective braking, failed parking brake, major air or hydraulic leaks, damaged brake lines, unresolved brake warnings, or other defects that may make departure unsafe.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: For FMCSA-regulated CMVs, service brakes including trailer brake connections and the parking brake are specifically included in the pre-trip safe-operation list.

5. Steering, tires, tread, wheels, rims, hubs, fasteners, suspension, axle condition, and mudguards

25

Check steering response, steering wheel free-play clues, column condition, visible steering linkage where accessible, and power-steering condition under the approved pre-trip process.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: Inspect every wheel position before departure. Tire, wheel, hub, steering, and suspension defects can lead to rapid loss of control and should not be deferred casually.

26

Inspect all tires for inflation condition, cuts, bulges, exposed cords, punctures, sidewall damage, embedded objects, severe uneven wear, and visible separation.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Inspect every wheel position before departure. Tire, wheel, hub, steering, and suspension defects can lead to rapid loss of control and should not be deferred casually.

27

Check tread condition and depth against the fleet's approved limits and applicable requirements for the vehicle type and axle position.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: Inspect every wheel position before departure. Tire, wheel, hub, steering, and suspension defects can lead to rapid loss of control and should not be deferred casually.

28

Inspect wheels and rims for cracks, bends, corrosion, elongated holes, impact damage, missing pieces, or other structural concerns.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Inspect every wheel position before departure. Tire, wheel, hub, steering, and suspension defects can lead to rapid loss of control and should not be deferred casually.

29

Check wheel nuts, studs, indicators, hubs, seals, springs, air bags, shackles, suspension arms, axle components, and visible fasteners for looseness, leakage, or damage.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Inspect every wheel position before departure. Tire, wheel, hub, steering, and suspension defects can lead to rapid loss of control and should not be deferred casually.

30

Escalate exposed tire cords, severe tire damage, cracked rims, loose or missing wheel fasteners, steering defects, or major suspension damage that could cause loss of control.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: Inspect every wheel position before departure. Tire, wheel, hub, steering, and suspension defects can lead to rapid loss of control and should not be deferred casually.

6. Headlights, brake lights, turn signals, hazards, markers, reflectors, conspicuity, license lights, and electrical connections

31

Check headlights, high and low beam where equipped, daytime running lamps where used, front position lamps, and other required forward lighting.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Activate every required lighting function and verify it from outside the vehicle. Dashboard tell-tales alone do not prove that the actual lamps are operating.

32

Check tail lamps, brake lamps, turn signals, hazard-warning lamps, reverse lamps, and trailer lighting where applicable.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Activate every required lighting function and verify it from outside the vehicle. Dashboard tell-tales alone do not prove that the actual lamps are operating.

33

Inspect side markers, clearance lamps, reflectors, conspicuity tape or markings, and license or registration illumination for visibility and condition.

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Activate every required lighting function and verify it from outside the vehicle. Dashboard tell-tales alone do not prove that the actual lamps are operating.

34

Check lamp lenses, housings, mounts, wiring, connectors, plugs, trailer-light connections, and protective covers for cracks, looseness, water entry, or exposed wiring.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Activate every required lighting function and verify it from outside the vehicle. Dashboard tell-tales alone do not prove that the actual lamps are operating.

35

Verify vehicle-and-trailer lighting functions correctly after coupling and that electrical connectors are fully seated, locked where applicable, and safely routed.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: Activate every required lighting function and verify it from outside the vehicle. Dashboard tell-tales alone do not prove that the actual lamps are operating.

36

Escalate failed brake lights, critical headlamp or turn-signal failure, missing trailer lighting, damaged electrical connectors, or poor conspicuity that makes departure unsuitable.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: Activate every required lighting function and verify it from outside the vehicle. Dashboard tell-tales alone do not prove that the actual lamps are operating.

7. Engine compartment, fluids, belts, hoses, battery, cooling, fuel system, exhaust, and pre-departure leak check

37

Check engine oil, coolant, brake or clutch fluid where applicable, power-steering fluid, windshield-washer fluid, and other driver-checkable levels under the fleet procedure.

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: Use the engine-bay inspection to catch developing failures before travel. Keep the vehicle secured and do not perform intrusive or hot-system checks unless authorized.

38

Inspect engine compartment and ground beneath the vehicle for fuel, oil, coolant, hydraulic, brake, transmission, or other active leakage.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Use the engine-bay inspection to catch developing failures before travel. Keep the vehicle secured and do not perform intrusive or hot-system checks unless authorized.

39

Inspect belts, hoses, clamps, reservoirs, radiator or cooling connections, visible wiring, battery mounts, battery terminals, and protective covers for damage or looseness.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Use the engine-bay inspection to catch developing failures before travel. Keep the vehicle secured and do not perform intrusive or hot-system checks unless authorized.

40

Check battery condition, hold-downs, terminals, cables, corrosion, charging warning, and accessible battery enclosure or isolation controls where applicable.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Use the engine-bay inspection to catch developing failures before travel. Keep the vehicle secured and do not perform intrusive or hot-system checks unless authorized.

41

Inspect visible exhaust components, heat shields, mounts, after-treatment housings, and exhaust routing for damage, leakage clues, loose parts, or excessive soot.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Use the engine-bay inspection to catch developing failures before travel. Keep the vehicle secured and do not perform intrusive or hot-system checks unless authorized.

42

Escalate fuel leaks, major fluid loss, damaged critical belts or hoses, insecure battery, overheating clues, exhaust leakage into occupied areas, or other defects threatening safe departure.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: Use the engine-bay inspection to catch developing failures before travel. Keep the vehicle secured and do not perform intrusive or hot-system checks unless authorized.

8. Coupling devices, fifth wheel, kingpin, hitch, air and electrical lines, landing gear, trailer body, and connection integrity

43

Inspect fifth wheel, kingpin connection, drawbar, pintle hook, tow hitch, coupling jaws, locking handle, release mechanism, safety pin, and other coupling devices applicable to the combination.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: Treat the tractor-trailer connection as one safety system. Verify mechanical lock, air and electrical connections, clearances, trailer support, and visible trailer condition before...

44

Verify the coupling is fully engaged and locked with no obvious gap, incomplete connection, interference, or visible defect that could allow separation.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Treat the tractor-trailer connection as one safety system. Verify mechanical lock, air and electrical connections, clearances, trailer support, and visible trailer condition before...

45

Check trailer air lines, brake hoses, glad hands, electrical lines, connectors, safety chains or cables where applicable, and line routing for secure and damage-free condition.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Treat the tractor-trailer connection as one safety system. Verify mechanical lock, air and electrical connections, clearances, trailer support, and visible trailer condition before...

46

Inspect landing gear, support legs, crank handles, frame areas, trailer floor, doors, hinges, locks, roof, walls, and visible structural components for damage affecting safe travel.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Treat the tractor-trailer connection as one safety system. Verify mechanical lock, air and electrical connections, clearances, trailer support, and visible trailer condition before...

47

Confirm trailer doors, curtains, tailgates, liftgates, seals, locks, and load-compartment closures are secured before departure.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: Treat the tractor-trailer connection as one safety system. Verify mechanical lock, air and electrical connections, clearances, trailer support, and visible trailer condition before...

48

Escalate incomplete coupling, damaged fifth wheel or hitch components, failed trailer connections, damaged landing gear, insecure doors, or structural defects that could cause separation or cargo loss.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: Treat the tractor-trailer connection as one safety system. Verify mechanical lock, air and electrical connections, clearances, trailer support, and visible trailer condition before...

9. Cargo distribution, securement, load area, emergency equipment, documents, route-specific items, and departure readiness

49

Verify cargo is properly distributed for the vehicle and route and does not create an obvious overload, axle, stability, center-of-gravity, or visibility concern.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: FMCSA 392.9 requires cargo to be properly distributed and adequately secured before driving. Required emergency equipment under 393.95 should also be in place and ready for...

50

Inspect straps, chains, binders, bars, nets, locks, anchor points, dunnage, blocking, bracing, and other cargo-securement equipment for correct placement and serviceable condition.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: FMCSA 392.9 requires cargo to be properly distributed and adequately secured before driving. Required emergency equipment under 393.95 should also be in place and ready for...

51

Check cargo, tools, pallets, containers, loose items, and internal equipment cannot shift into the driver area, damage the vehicle, open a door, or fall from the vehicle.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: FMCSA 392.9 requires cargo to be properly distributed and adequately secured before driving. Required emergency equipment under 393.95 should also be in place and ready for...

52

Confirm required emergency equipment is present and ready for use, including fire extinguisher and warning devices where required for the vehicle's regulatory category.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Ready

Repair

Do not dispatch

LIVE PHOTO | Add

Execution tip: FMCSA 392.9 requires cargo to be properly distributed and adequately secured before driving. Required emergency equipment under 393.95 should also be in place and ready for...

53

Check route-specific items such as permits, toll device, fuel or charge status, seasonal equipment, high-visibility vest, first-aid or spill kit, and special cargo documents where required by the fleet.

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: FMCSA 392.9 requires cargo to be properly distributed and adequately secured before driving. Required emergency equipment under 393.95 should also be in place and ready for...

54

Escalate unstable cargo, failed securement, missing required emergency equipment, critical document or permit gaps, or other conditions that make the vehicle unsuitable for departure.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: FMCSA 392.9 requires cargo to be properly distributed and adequately secured before driving. Required emergency equipment under 393.95 should also be in place and ready for...

10. Defect classification, repair-before-dispatch decision, driver acknowledgement, maintenance verification, and final release

55

Classify each finding by cab or controls, brakes, steering, tires or wheels, lights, engine or fluids, body or chassis, coupling, trailer, cargo securement, emergency equipment, or other approved category.

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: The pre-trip decision should be explicit. If a defect affects safe operation, hold the vehicle until it is repaired or otherwise properly dispositioned under the controlling process.

56

Prioritize defects by potential loss of control, brake or steering effect, tire or wheel failure, visibility, coupling or cargo risk, fire risk, breakdown risk, recurrence, and urgency.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: The pre-trip decision should be explicit. If a defect affects safe operation, hold the vehicle until it is repaired or otherwise properly dispositioned under the controlling process.

57

For FMCSA-regulated commercial motor vehicles, confirm the driver is satisfied the vehicle is in safe operating condition before driving and has reviewed prior required defect information where applicable.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: The pre-trip decision should be explicit. If a defect affects safe operation, hold the vehicle until it is repaired or otherwise properly dispositioned under the controlling process.

58

Hold, restrict, or remove the vehicle or trailer from service when a defect creates an unacceptable safety or roadworthiness risk under fleet criteria or controlling legal requirements.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
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Execution tip: The pre-trip decision should be explicit. If a defect affects safe operation, hold the vehicle until it is repaired or otherwise properly dispositioned under the controlling process.

59

Verify safety-affecting defects are repaired or formally dispositioned as permitted, with required repair certification or maintenance evidence completed before dispatch.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

Pre-trip item	Result / severity	Owner	Evidence	Repair / action
---------------	-------------------	-------	----------	-----------------

Execution tip: The pre-trip decision should be explicit. If a defect affects safe operation, hold the vehicle until it is repaired or otherwise properly dispositioned under the controlling process.

60

Record final pre-trip status, open critical defects, operating restrictions, work-order reference, repair verification, driver acknowledgement where required, fleet owner, maintenance approval, and dispatch release.

CRITICAL

PRE-TRIP

FINAL STATUS Enter	FLEET OWNER Enter	MAINTENANCE APPROVAL Enter	DISPATCH RELEASE Enter
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Execution tip: The pre-trip decision should be explicit. If a defect affects safe operation, hold the vehicle until it is repaired or otherwise properly dispositioned under the controlling process.