

Road Transport (General) Act 2005

Class 3 Truck and Dog Trailer Combination Notice

I, Michael Bushby, Chief Executive of the Roads and Traffic Authority, in pursuance of Part 2, Division 5 of the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005*, by this Notice, exempt Class 3 truck and dog trailer combinations from the provisions of Clause 6 (1) and (2) of Schedule 1 to that Regulation, subject to the conditions and requirements set out in this Notice.

Michael Bushby
Chief Executive
Roads and Traffic Authority

Schedule

Part 1 – Preliminary

1.1 Citation

This Notice may be cited as the *Class 3 Truck and Dog Trailer Combination Notice 2010*.

1.2 Commencement

This Notice takes effect on the 2 September 2010.

1.3 Effect

This Notice remains in force until 1 September 2015 unless it is amended or repealed earlier.

1.4 Repeal

This Notice repeals and replaces the *General Class 3 Truck and Dog Trailer Combination Notice 2005*, that was published in Government Gazette No. 164 at pages 11483 to 11492 on 23 December 2005 and subsequently amended from time to time.

1.5 Interpretations

1.5.1 Unless stated otherwise in this Notice, the words and expressions used in this Notice have the same meaning as those defined in the *Road Transport General Act 2005*

1.5.2 Except where a contrary intention is indicated, the index, diagrams and notes in the text of this Notice do not form part of this Notice.

Part 2 - Application

- 2.1** This Notice applies to a Class 3 truck and dog trailer combination with total mass limit exceeding the limit specified in Schedule 1 of the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005*, but does not exceed the limit specified in clause 3.2 of this Notice.

Note:	This Notice only applies to truck and dog trailer combinations with a hauling unit of a gross combination mass (GCM) in excess of 42.5 tonnes. To be eligible to load in excess of 42.5 tonnes, you must meet all of the requirements specified in this Notice.
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Part 3 – Operating and travel requirements

3.1 Operating requirements

- 3.1.1** A copy of this Notice must be carried in the driving compartment whenever the vehicle is operating as a Class 3 truck and dog trailer combination and must be produced to an authorised officer when requested.
- 3.1.2** A vehicle operating under this notice must comply with all the conditions of this Notice.
- 3.1.3** Unless stated otherwise, Class 3 truck and dog trailer combinations operating under this Notice must comply with the provisions of road transport legislation as defined by Section 5 of the *Road Transport (General) Act 2005*.

Note:	The requirements of road transport legislation, applicable to truck and dog trailer combinations are outlined in the <i>Information Sheet: Truck & Dog Trailer Combinations Over 42.5 Tonnes</i> , which is available on the RTA's website.
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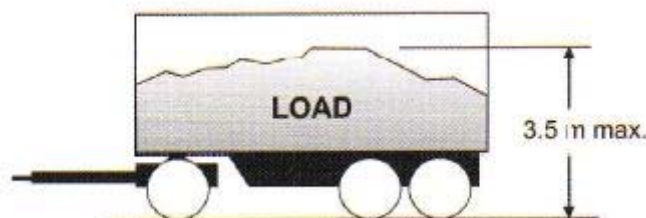
3.2 Travel requirements

A vehicle operating under this Notice may operate on all roads, except where prohibited by a no truck sign, or a load limit specified for a road, bridge or causeway by a sign or notice.

Part 4 – Special Requirements

4.1 Load height – 3 axle dog trailers only

Unless the RTA otherwise approves in writing, the height of the load on any three axle dog trailer must not exceed 3.5 metres.



Note:	The special 3.5 metre load height limit only applies to a Class 3 truck and dog combinations.
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4.2 Mass limits

4.2.1 Gross mass limits

The gross mass of a Class 3 truck and dog trailer combination must be the lowest of:

- (a) the sum of the axle and axle group mass limits as determined in Table 1, Clause 2, Schedule 1 to the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005*.
- (b) the mass limits for axle spacings as determined by Table 2, Clause 5, Schedule 1 of the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005*.
- (c) the sum of the gross vehicle mass (GVM) limits for the hauling unit and the dog trailer;
- (d) the gross combination mass (GCM) limit of the hauling unit; or
- (e) 50.0 tonnes.

4.2.2 Mass limits relating to axle spacing

The extreme axle spacing for a three-axle dog trailer with a single axle at the front and a tandem axle group at the rear of the trailer must exceed 4.3 metres.

Example:

The extreme axle spacing for a **three axle** dog trailer, ie the distance between the centre of the first axle and the centre of the last axle, must be more than 4.3 metres.

If your trailer does not comply with this minimum axle spacing requirement, the combined weight of your truck and dog trailer and load (gross mass of the combination) **must not exceed** 42.5 tonnes.

4.2.3 Mass ratio

The loaded mass of a dog trailer must not exceed by more than 25 percent, the loaded mass of the towing vehicle.

4.3 Suspension systems

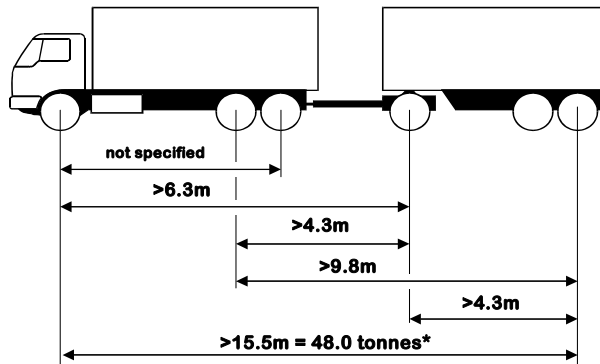
Class 3 truck and dog trailer combinations operating under this Notice must be fitted with an approved air suspension system on all axles or axle groups of the combination, with the exception of the steer axle or twin steer axle group of the hauling unit.

4.4 Gradeability of combinations

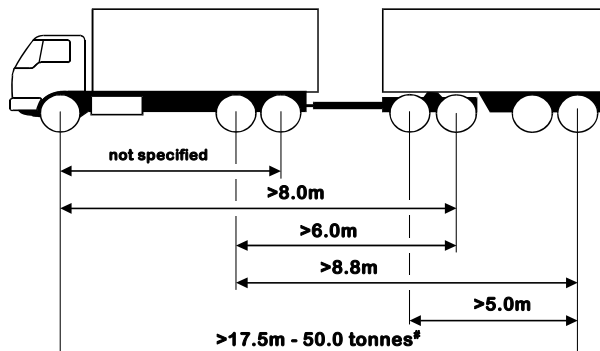
A Class 3 truck and dog trailer combination must be capable of starting movement on a 12% gradient, and maintaining a constant speed of 70 km/h on a 1% gradient when operating at the nominated gross combination mass.

Note: The approximate power to weight ratio required to meet the gradeability standard is 6.4 hp/tonne (4.8 kW/tonne)

Note: The diagrams below show the typical truck and dog trailer combinations that can be loaded above 42.5 tonnes, and the minimum axle spacings required to achieve the maximum load for each combination.



* For a 48 tonne load, the extreme axle spacing must be more than 15.5 metres. Reduce the total load of the combination by 0.5 tonnes for each 0.5m reduction in extreme axle spacing.



For a 50.0 tonne load, the extreme axle spacing must be more than 17.5 metres. Reduce the total load of the combination by 0.5 tonnes for each 0.5m reduction in extreme axle spacing.

