

2026



# LINCOLN TOWING GUIDE





# LINCOLN TOWING GUIDE

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## Thoughtful Technology. Robust Performance.

From light to heavy loads, Lincoln combines intuitive technology and robust performance allowing you to work smarter while exploring new destinations and possibilities. SUVs like Aviator can tow up to 5000 lbs.<sup>1</sup> when properly equipped, making it suitable for a variety of towing tasks. For even greater towing capabilities, Navigator offers expanded towing adventures with its commanding power and capability. Navigator features helpful tools like available Pro Trailer Hitch Assist™ and Pro Trailer Backup Assist™, which simplify the process of connecting and manoeuvring your trailer. Plus, the available Heavy-Duty Trailer Tow Package significantly increases Navigator's towing capacity to 8700 lbs.<sup>2</sup> allowing you to confidently take on even the toughest towing challenges.

<sup>1</sup>Equipped with standard Class III Trailer Tow Package. Maximum towing varies based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers. Maximum loaded trailer weight requires weight-distributing hitch. <sup>2</sup>When properly equipped with available Heavy-Duty Trailer Tow Package and 22" wheels. Max. towing varies and is based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers.

## SAE TOWING STANDARD

The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) testing standard J2807® defines procedures and requirements to determine gross combined weight ratings (GCWR) and to calculate the trailer weight rating (TWR) for any tow vehicle. This standard establishes minimum performance conditions to allow for consistent comparisons between similar class vehicles.



2026 Lincoln Navigator Reserve model shown with available Jet Appearance Package and extra-cost colour option Grey Mist Metallic Tri-Coat.

### NAVIGATOR TRAILER TOWING SELECTOR

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION		Axle Ratio	GCWR (lbs.)	NAVIGATOR	NAVIGATOR L
Engine	4x4			4x4	
Twin-Turbocharged 3.5L V6	3.73	12,700	Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight (lbs.)		
			6200	6600	
			13,300	15,300	
			8700 <sup>1,2</sup> /8500 <sup>1,2,3</sup>	8700 <sup>1,2</sup> /8400 <sup>1,2,3</sup>	
		15,500			

- Notes:**
- Navigator calculated with SAE J2807 method.
  - Do not exceed the Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight listed.
  - Combined weight of vehicle and trailer cannot exceed listed GCWR.
  - Trailer tongue load weight should be 10% of total loaded trailer weight. **Make sure vehicle payload (reduced by option weight) will accommodate trailer tongue load weight and weight of passengers and cargo added to towing vehicle.** Addition of trailer tongue load weight and weight of passengers and cargo cannot cause vehicle weights to exceed rear GAWR or GVWR. These ratings can be found on the vehicle Safety Compliance Certification Label.

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

For trailers over 6200 pounds — Class IV Heavy-Duty Trailer Tow Package (536)

Your New Vehicle Limited Warranty<sup>4</sup> may be voided if you tow without this.

### FRONTAL AREA LIMITATION

Frontal Area is the total area in square feet that a moving vehicle and trailer exposes to air resistance.

The maximum trailer frontal area that must be considered for a Navigator/trailer combination is **55 sq. ft. without Heavy-Duty Trailer Tow Package** and **60 sq. ft. with Heavy-Duty Trailer Tow Package**. Exceeding these limitations may significantly reduce the performance of your towing vehicle.

### AVAILABLE TRAILER TOW PACKAGE

Equipment	Option Code 536
7-Wire Harness and 4-/7-Pin Connector	S
Class IV Hitch Receiver	S
Trailer Sway Control	S
Smart Trailer Tow	S
Heavy-Duty Radiator	I
2-Speed Transfer Case <sup>5</sup>	I
Trailer Reverse Guidance	S
Pro Trailer Backup Assist 2.0	S
Pro Trailer Hitch Assist	S
Blind Spot Information System (BLIS) with Trailer Coverage	S
Trailer Brake Controller (TBC)	I

#### LEGEND

I = Equipment is included in the package.  
S = Equipment is standard on the vehicle.

### FACTORY-INSTALLED TRAILER HITCH RECEIVER OPTION

Standard on Navigator.

The chart below shows the weight-carrying and weight-distributing capacities of these hitch receivers.

Vehicle	Weight-Carrying Max. Trailer Capacity (lbs.) <sup>6</sup>	Max. Tongue Load (lbs.)	Weight-Distributing Max. Trailer Capacity (lbs.) <sup>6</sup>	Max. Tongue Load (lbs.)
Navigator	7000	700	8700 <sup>1</sup>	870
Navigator L	7000	700	8700 <sup>1</sup>	870

### REAR AXLE RATIO CODE

If you do not know the axle ratio of your vehicle, check its Safety Compliance Certification Label (located on the left front door lock facing or the door latch post pillar). Below the bar code, you will see the word AXLE and a two-digit code.

Rear Axle Ratio	Non-Limited Slip
3.73	3N

<sup>1</sup>Requires available Class IV Heavy-Duty Trailer Tow Package (536), standard on Black Label. When properly equipped. Max. towing varies based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers. <sup>2</sup>Maximum loaded trailer weight requires weight-distributing hitch. <sup>3</sup>When equipped with 24" wheels. <sup>4</sup>See your Lincoln Retailer for limited-warranty details. <sup>5</sup>Includes Slow/Climb Selectable Drive Mode. <sup>6</sup>Hitch receivers do not include a hitch ball or ball mounting. You are responsible for obtaining the proper hitch ball, ball mounting, weight-distributing equipment (i.e., equalizing arms and snap-up brackets, sway control system) and other appropriate equipment to tow both the trailer and its cargo load.



2026 Lincoln Aviator Reserve with the available Jet Appearance Package in extra-cost colour option Pristine White Metallic Tri-Coat.

### AVIATOR TRAILER TOWING SELECTOR

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION			
Engine	Axle Ratio	GCWR (lbs.) AWD	Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight (lbs.)
Twin-Turbocharged 3.0L V6	3.58	12,200	5000 <sup>1</sup>

- Notes:**
- Aviator calculated with SAE J2807 method.
  - Do not exceed the Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight listed.
  - Certain provinces/territories/states require electric trailer brakes for trailers over a specified weight. Be sure to check local governmental regulations for this specified weight. **WARNING:** Do not tow a trailer fitted with electric trailer brakes unless your vehicle is fitted with a compatible aftermarket electronic trailer brake controller. Failure to follow this instruction could result in the loss of control of your vehicle, personal injury or death. For additional information and assistance, we recommend that you contact an authorized Lincoln Retailer.

### FRONTAL AREA LIMITATION

Frontal Area is the total area in square feet that a moving vehicle and trailer exposes to air resistance.

The maximum trailer frontal area that must be considered for a **Aviator**/trailer combination is **40 sq. ft.** Exceeding this limitation may significantly reduce the performance of your towing vehicle.

### STANDARD EQUIPPED CLASS III TRAILER TOW PACKAGE

Equipment	(NOC)
4-Pin and 7-Pin Wiring Connector	I
Class III Hitch	I
Blind Spot Information System (BLIS) with Trailer Coverage	I
Smart Trailer Tow	I
Trailer Sway Control	I

**LEGEND**  
**I** = Equipment is included in the package.  
**(NOC)** = No "Option Code" assigned.

### FACTORY-INSTALLED TRAILER HITCH RECEIVER

Included with standard Class III Trailer Tow Package.

The chart below shows the weight-carrying capacity of this hitch receiver.

Weight-Carrying Max. Trailer Capacity (lbs.) <sup>2</sup>	Max. Tongue Load (lbs.)
5000 <sup>1</sup>	500

### REAR AXLE RATIO CODE

If you do not know the axle ratio of your vehicle, check its Safety Compliance Certification Label (located on the left front door lock facing or the door latch post pillar). Below the bar code, you will see the word

AXLE and a two-digit code.	Rear Axle Ratio	Non-Limited Slip
	3.58	3B

<sup>1</sup>With standard Class III Trailer Tow Package. When properly equipped. Max. towing varies based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers. <sup>2</sup>Hitch receivers do not include a hitch ball or ball mounting. You are responsible for obtaining the proper hitch ball, ball mounting and other appropriate equipment to tow both the trailer and its cargo load.



2026 Lincoln Nautilus Reserve shown with available Jet Appearance Package in extra-cost colour option in Whisper Blue Metallic Tinted Clearcoat.

## NAUTILUS TRAILER TOWING SELECTOR

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION			
Engine	Axle Configuration	Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight (lbs.)	Maximum Tongue Load (lbs.)
Turbocharged 2.0L I-4	AWD	1750 <sup>1</sup>	175
Turbocharged 2.0L I-4 Hybrid	AWD	1750 <sup>1</sup>	175

- Notes:**
- Nautilus Calculated with SAE J2807 method.
  - Do not exceed the Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight listed.
  - Certain provinces/territories/states require electric trailer brakes for trailers over a specified weight. Be sure to check local governmental regulations for this specified weight. **WARNING:** Do not tow a trailer fitted with electric trailer brakes unless your vehicle is fitted with a compatible aftermarket electronic trailer brake controller. Failure to follow this instruction could result in the loss of control of your vehicle, personal injury or death. For additional information and assistance, we recommend that you contact an authorized Lincoln Retailer.

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

For maximum towing capacity of 1750 pounds<sup>1</sup> with 2.0L I-4, the Retailer-installed Class I Trailer Tow Package option is required.

Your New Vehicle Warranty<sup>2</sup> may be voided if you tow without this.

### FRONTAL AREA LIMITATION

Frontal Area is the total area in square feet that a moving vehicle and trailer exposes to air resistance.

The maximum trailer frontal area that must be considered for a Nautilus/trailer combination is **20 sq. ft. with Retailer-installed/factory-approved receiver tow hitch**. Exceeding this limitation may significantly reduce the performance of your towing vehicle.

### LINCOLN RETAILER-INSTALLED TRAILER HITCH RECEIVER OPTION

The chart below shows the weight-carrying capacity of this hitch receiver. (This capacity also is shown on a label affixed to each receiver.)

Weight-Carrying Max. Trailer Capacity (lbs.) <sup>3</sup>	Max. Tongue Load (lbs.)
1750 <sup>4</sup>	175

<sup>1</sup>Class I Trailer Tow Package required. Only available as a Dealer-installed option (DIO). When properly equipped. Max. towing varies based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers. <sup>2</sup>See your Lincoln Retailer for limited-warranty details. <sup>3</sup>Hitch receivers do not include a hitch ball or ball mounting. You are responsible for obtaining the proper hitch ball, ball mounting and other appropriate equipment to tow both the trailer and its cargo load. <sup>4</sup>When properly equipped, max. towing varies based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers.



2026 Lincoln Corsair Grand Touring with available Jet Appearance Package in extra-cost colour option Crystal White Metallic Clearcoat.

## CORSAIR TRAILER TOWING SELECTOR

Engine	Final Drive Ratio	GCWR (lbs.)		CORSAIR GRAND TOURING PLUG-IN HYBRID	
		AWD	eAWD	CORSAIR Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight (lbs.)	Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight (lbs.)
Turbocharged 2.0L I-4	3.81	7280		2000 <sup>1</sup> /3000 <sup>2</sup>	
Atkinson-cycle 2.5L I-4	2.91		7839		3000 <sup>2</sup>

- Notes:**
- Corsair calculated with SAE J2807 method.
  - Combined weight of vehicle and trailer cannot exceed listed GCWR.
  - Do not exceed the Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight listed.
  - Certain provinces/territories/states require electric trailer brakes for trailers over a specified weight. Be sure to check local governmental regulations for this specified weight. **WARNING:** Do not tow a trailer fitted with electric trailer brakes unless your vehicle is fitted with a compatible aftermarket electronic trailer brake controller. Failure to follow this instruction could result in the loss of control of your vehicle, personal injury or death. For additional information and assistance, we recommend that you contact an authorized Lincoln Retailer.

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

For trailers over 2000 pounds — Class II Trailer Tow Package (18C)

Your New Vehicle Limited Warranty<sup>3</sup> may be voided if you tow without this.

### FRONTAL AREA LIMITATION

Frontal Area is the total area in square feet that a moving vehicle and trailer exposes to air resistance.

The maximum trailer frontal area that must be considered for a Corsair/trailer combination is **20 sq. ft.\* without Class II Trailer Tow Package** and **30 sq. ft. with Class II Trailer Tow Package**. Exceeding these limitations may significantly reduce the performance of your towing vehicle.

\*Base Vehicle Frontal Area.

### AVAILABLE TRAILER TOW PACKAGE

Equipment	Option Code 18C	LEGEND
Trailer Harness (4-Pin)	I	I = Equipment is included in the package
Trailer Sway Control	I	
Hitch Receiver	I	

**Note:** Trailer Towing Equipment recommended for all vehicles that will be used for towing to help ensure easy, proper connection of trailer lights.

### FACTORY-INSTALLED TRAILER HITCH RECEIVER OPTION

The chart below shows the weight-carrying capacity of this hitch receiver.

Weight-Carrying Max. Trailer Capacity (lbs.) <sup>4</sup>	Max. Tongue Load (lbs.)
3000 <sup>2</sup>	300

<sup>1</sup>Lincoln Accessory or aftermarket hitch receiver installation can only be rated at 2000 lbs. (maximum trailer tow capacity on 2.0L application). <sup>2</sup>Requires factory-installed Class II Trailer Tow Package (18C). When properly equipped. Max. towing varies based on cargo, vehicle configuration, accessories and number of passengers. <sup>3</sup>See your Lincoln Retailer for limited-warranty details. <sup>4</sup>Hitch receivers do not include a hitch ball or ball mounting. You are responsible for obtaining the proper hitch ball, ball mounting and other appropriate equipment to tow both the trailer and its cargo load.

# What to Know Before You Tow

## BEFORE YOU BUY

If you are selecting a vehicle that will be used for towing, you should determine the approximate weight of the trailer you intend to tow, including the weight of any additional cargo and fluids that you will be carrying in the trailer. Also, be sure the vehicle has the proper optional equipment (refer to pages 3–6). Keep in mind that performance can be severely affected on hilly terrain when the minimum acceptable powertrain combination is selected. Consider purchasing a vehicle with a more powerful engine.

## AFTER YOU BUY

Before heading out on a trip, check your vehicle Owner's Manual for break-in and severe-duty maintenance schedules (do not tow a trailer until your vehicle has been driven at least 1600 km). Be sure to have your fully loaded vehicle (including passengers) and trailer weighed so as not to exceed critical weight limits (refer to page 10). If any of these limits are exceeded, cargo should be removed from the vehicle and/or trailer until all weights are within the specified limits.

## BRAKES

Canadian provinces and territories, as well as many American states, require a separate braking system on trailers with a loaded weight of more than 1500 pounds. (For your safety, Ford Motor Company recommends that a separate functional brake system be used on any towed vehicle, including those dolly-towed or towbar-towed.) There are several basic types of brake systems designed to activate trailer brakes:

**Electronically Controlled Brakes** usually provide automatic and manual control of trailer brakes. They require that the tow vehicle be equipped with a controlling device and additional wiring for electrical power. These brakes typically have a control box installed within reach of the driver and can be applied manually or automatically.

**Electric-Over-Hydraulic (EOH) Trailer Brakes** are operated by an electrically powered pump that pressurizes a hydraulic fluid reservoir built into the trailer's brake system. Many of the available EOH trailer brake models are compatible with the Lincoln factory-installed, dash-integrated Trailer Brake Controller (TBC).

**Surge Brakes** are independent hydraulic brakes activated by a master cylinder at the junction of the hitch and trailer tongue. They are not controlled by the hydraulic fluid in the tow vehicle's brake system, and the tow vehicle's hydraulic system should never be connected directly to the trailer's hydraulic system.

Be sure your trailer brakes conform to all applicable local governmental regulations. See *Towing Basics on the last page for additional braking information.*

## TRAILER LAMPS

Make sure the trailer is equipped with lights that conform to all applicable government regulations. The trailer lighting system should not be connected directly to the lighting system of the vehicle. See a local recreational vehicle dealer or rental trailer agency for correct wiring and relays for the trailer and heavy-duty flashers.

## SAFETY CHAINS

Always use safety chains when towing. Safety Chains are used to retain connection between the towing and towed vehicle in the event of separation of the trailer coupling or ball.

Cross chains under the trailer tongue to prevent the tongue from contacting the ground if a separation occurs. Allow only enough slack to permit full turning — be sure they do not drag on the pavement.

Refer to your Owner's Manual for safety chain attachment information.

For rental trailers, follow rental agency instructions for hookup of safety chains.

## TRAILER WIRING HARNESS

Some vehicles equipped with a factory-installed Trailer Tow Package include a trailer wiring harness and a wiring kit.

This kit includes one or more jumper harnesses (to connect to your trailer wiring connector) and installation instructions.

## CLASS I LIGHT-DUTY

2000-lb. maximum weight (trailer and cargo combined).

Small folding camping trailers and trailers for small boats, motorcycles and snowmobiles.

Most Lincoln vehicles can handle easily.

Conventional weight-carrying hitch.

## CLASS II MEDIUM-DUTY

2001–3500-lb. gross trailer weight.

Large folding camping trailers, single-axle, small- to medium-length (up to 18 ft.) trailers.

Most Lincoln SUVs can be equipped to tow these trailers<sup>1</sup>.

Conventional weight-distributing hitch not required unless specified for a particular vehicle.

## CLASS III HEAVY-DUTY

3501–5000-lb. gross trailer weight.

Dual-axle or large single-axle travel trailers.

Only properly equipped Lincoln SUVs can tow them<sup>1</sup>.

Conventional weight-distributing hitch not required unless specified for a particular vehicle.

## CLASS IV EXTRA-HEAVY-DUTY

Over 5000-lb. gross trailer weight.

Largest travel trailers made for recreation.

Only Navigator can be equipped to handle trailer weights in this class<sup>1</sup>.

Most applications require a conventional weight-distributing hitch.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to pages 3, 5 and 6 for required equipment.

## Trailer Types



### FOLDING CAMPING TRAILER

These are very cost effective units providing campers with a comfortable, dry, mobile shelter, plus these added benefits:

Lightweight for easy towing.

Simple conventional weight-carrying hitch is usually sufficient for towing.

Compact, low-profile traveling package.

Easily manoeuvrable — generally 8 to 16 feet long.



### CONVENTIONAL TRAVEL TRAILER

Generally larger, rigid construction units offering more of the conveniences of home, including such features as kitchen sink, dinette, shower, refrigerator and flush toilet. Additional benefits include:

Widely varied levels of roominess, comfort and luxury — depending on the towing capacity of your vehicle and your budget.

Sizes usually range from 12 to 35 feet long.

Normally towed with a conventional weight-distributing hitch, depending on weight.

## Hitches

### WEIGHT-CARRYING (NON-WEIGHT-DISTRIBUTING)

A weight-carrying (non-weight-distributing) hitch is commonly used to tow small- and medium-sized trailers. Choose a proper hitch and ball, and make sure its location is compatible with that of the trailer. Use a good weight-carrying hitch that uniformly distributes the trailer tongue loads through the frame. Lincoln hitch receivers provide weight-carrying capacities as shown in each chart (refer to pages 3–6).

(A label affixed to the hitch receiver provides both the weight-carrying and weight-distributing capacities for each receiver.) You are responsible for obtaining the proper hitch ball, ball mounting and other appropriate equipment to tow both the trailer and load that will be towed.



### WEIGHT-DISTRIBUTING

A weight-distributing hitch is used in conjunction with a hitch platform (receiver) to distribute tongue load to all towing vehicle and trailer wheels. Required for certain Class III and all Class IV applications (refer to each chart on pages 3–6).

Weight-distributing hitch platforms are welded or bolted to the vehicle frame. Bolt-on types are recommended because they can be removed.

A properly installed bolt-on weight-distributing hitch platform should not weaken the vehicle or underbody as heat of welding might.

Equalizing arms are connected from the hitch to the trailer's A-frame. They can be adjusted for best towing performance. Lengths of chain are pulled up and tightened to bend spring bars upward, which lifts some of the weight from the rear wheels and transfers weight to the other wheels of the vehicle and trailer.



# Calculating Weight Distribution

## WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION HITCH SETUP

Vehicle	Weight Distribution Correction Factor
Lincoln Corsair®	Not Required
Lincoln Nautilus®	Not Required
Lincoln Aviator®	Not Required
Lincoln Navigator®	50%

### CALCULATION EXAMPLE

Vehicle =	<b>Navigator</b>
H1 =	<b>37 inches</b>
H2 =	<b>38 inches</b>
Correction Factor =	<b>50%</b>
Height Change =	$38" - 37" = 1 \text{ inch}$ < (H2) minus (H1)
Reduction =	(Height Change)
Amount =	$1" \times 50\% = .50 \text{ inch}$ < times (Correction Factor)
Height =	(H2)
Change =	$38" - .50" = 37.50 \text{ inches}$ < minus (Reduction Amount)
Target Height =	<b>37.50 inches</b>

- 1 Load trailer similar to the way it will be loaded for the trip with 10% tongue load and park on level ground.
- 2 Adjust trailer tongue jack to get trailer level or just slightly nose down.
- 3 Load tow vehicle similar to the way it will be used for the trip and park vehicle on level ground.
- 4 Adjust and secure weight distribution ball mount height per manufacturer's instructions so tow ball is the same height as trailer coupler when trailer is not connected to tow vehicle.
- 5 Measure top of front fender lip above the centre of the wheel to ground
- 6 Record this value as "H1."

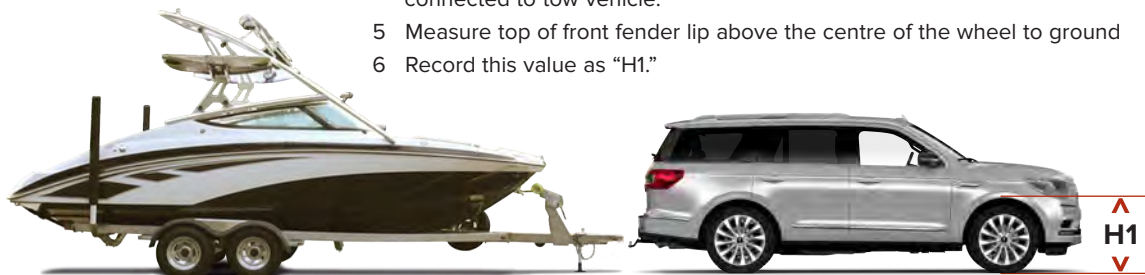


Figure 1

- 7 Connect trailer to tow ball with no weight distribution bars attached (make sure tongue jack is fully retracted).
- 8 Measure top of front fender lip above the centre of the wheel to ground.
- 9 Record this value as "H2."

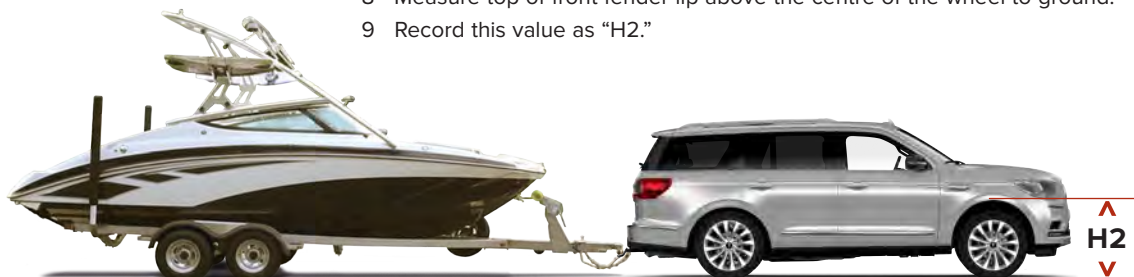


Figure 2

- 10 Adjust weight distribution bars per manufacturer's instructions to get tow vehicle top front of fender lip to "Target Height" and make sure trailer is level to slightly nose down.
- 11 Complete coupler latching, electrical connections, safety chains and emergency braking system attachments.



Figure 3

# Know Your Weights and Weight Limits

**Base Curb Weight** is the weight of the vehicle including a full tank of fuel and all standard equipment. It does not include passengers, cargo or any optional equipment. Your dealership sales consultant can give you this number for the vehicle(s) you are considering.

**Cargo Weight** includes all weight added to the Base Curb Weight, including cargo and optional equipment (check with your sales consultant). When towing, trailer tongue load weight is also part of the Cargo Weight.

**Payload** is the combined maximum allowable weight of cargo and passengers that the vehicle is designed to carry. It is the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating minus the Base Curb Weight.

Base Curb Weight  
**PLUS**  
Cargo Weight  
**PLUS**  
Passenger Weight  
**EQUALS**  
Gross Vehicle Weight  
(GVW)

*GVW must not exceed GVWR (obtain from Safety Compliance Certification Label on the left front door lock facing or the door latch post pillar).*

GVW  
**PLUS**  
Loaded  
Trailer Weight  
**EQUALS**  
Gross Combination  
Weight (GCW)

*GCW must not exceed GCWR (obtain from charts on pages 3, 4 and 5 or your vehicle Owner's Manual).*

**Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)** is the Base Curb Weight plus actual Cargo Weight plus Passengers. It is important to remember that GVW is not a limit or specification — it is the actual weight that is obtained when the fully-loaded vehicle is driven onto a scale.

**Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)** is the maximum allowable weight of the fully-loaded vehicle (including passengers and cargo). This number — along with other weight limits, as well as tire, rim size and inflation pressure data — is shown on the vehicle's Safety Compliance Certification Label (shown below), located on the left front door lock facing or the door latch post pillar. **The GVW must never exceed the GVWR.**



**Gross Axle Weight (GAW)** is the total weight placed on each axle (front and rear). To determine the Gross Axle Weights for your vehicle and trailer combination, take your loaded vehicle and trailer to a scale. With the trailer attached, place the front wheels of the vehicle on the scale to get the front GAW. For rear GAW, weigh the towing vehicle with trailer attached, but with just the four wheels of the vehicle on the scale. Subtracting front GAW from that amount gives you rear GAW.

## MEASURING TONGUE LOAD WITH COMMERCIAL SCALE

To measure actual tongue load weight, disconnect the trailer and place only the tongue on a scale (at hitch ball receiver height). If the tongue load weight exceeds the upper weight limit, move more of the trailer contents rearward to achieve the recommended tongue load weight. If the tongue load weight is less than the lower limit, shift the load forward.

**Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR)** is the maximum weight to be carried by a single axle (front or rear). These numbers are also shown on the Safety Compliance Certification Label. **The total load on each axle must never exceed its GAWR.**

**Gross Combination Weight (GCW)** is the weight of the loaded vehicle (GVW) plus the weight of the fully-loaded trailer. It is the actual weight obtained when the vehicle and trailer are weighed together on a scale.

**Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR)** is the maximum allowable weight of the towing vehicle and the loaded trailer — including all cargo and passengers — that the vehicle can handle without risking damage. (Important: The towing vehicle's brake system is rated for operation at the GVWR — NOT GCWR. Separate functional brake systems should be used for safe control of towed vehicles and for trailers weighing more than 1500 lbs. when loaded.) The measured GCW must never exceed the GCWR.

**Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight** is the highest possible weight of a fully-loaded trailer the vehicle can tow (as shown in the Trailer Towing Selector charts on pages 3–6), based on a minimum towing vehicle GVW. It assumes a towing vehicle with any mandatory options, no cargo, tongue load of 10% weight and driver and passenger (150 lbs. each). Weight of additional options, passengers, cargo and hitch must be deducted from this weight.

**Tongue Load Weight** is another critical measurement that must be made before towing. It refers to the amount of the trailer's weight that presses down on the trailer hitch. Too much tongue load weight can cause suspension/drivetrain damage, and can press the vehicle down in back causing the front wheels to lift to the point where traction, steering response and braking can be severely decreased. Too little tongue load weight can reduce rear-wheel traction and cause instability, which may result in tail wagging or jackknifing. Tongue load weights must meet the following requirements:\*

For trailers up to 2000 lbs., tongue load not to exceed 200 lbs.

For conventional trailers over 2000 lbs., tongue load is 10% of loaded trailer weight.

**EXAMPLE:** For a 5000-lb. conventional trailer, multiply 5000 by .10 to obtain a proper tongue load of 500 lbs.

**Note:** Be sure the addition of tongue load weight does not cause the key towing vehicle weight limits (GVWR and Rear GAWR) to be exceeded. Remember, GVWR and GAWR are found on the vehicle's Safety Compliance Certification Label (shown at left). If either of these limits is exceeded, you should go with a larger vehicle or a smaller trailer.

\*Refer to the charts on vehicle pages 3–6 for tongue load recommendations with Lincoln factory-installed trailer hitch receivers.

# Towing Your Vehicle Behind a Motorhome



## FOUR-WHEEL-DOWN TOWING

Many motorhome owners prefer the practicality of having another vehicle along when they travel. In fact, towing another vehicle behind the motorhome has become more and more popular in recent years. Furthermore, many of those who want to tow another vehicle prefer one that can be easily towed without a dolly or trailer. For proper operation, towed vehicles (or dollies or trailers carrying them) should be equipped with a separate functional brake system. See last page for additional brake information.

2026 LINCOLN PLUG-IN HYBRID VEHICLES	Automatic Transmission
Corsair Grand Touring*	No

2026 LINCOLN CUVs/SUVs	
Corsair	No
Nautilus Turbocharged 2.0L	No
Nautilus Turbocharged 2.0L Hybrid*	Yes <sup>1,2,3</sup>
Aviator	No
Navigator/Navigator L	Yes <sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Maximum speed with hybrid transmission is 112 km/h. <sup>2</sup>Select "Neutral Tow" mode — refer to Owner's Manual transmission and towing sections to follow procedures. <sup>3</sup>Start the engine and allow it to run for a few minutes at the beginning of each day and every six (6) hours or fewer, thereafter. With the engine running and your foot on the brake, shift into drive (D) and then into reverse (R) before shifting back into neutral (N). <sup>4</sup>Vehicle equipped with optional Heavy-Duty Trailer Towing Package (536) and 2-speed transfer case. <sup>5</sup>Shift the transfer case in neutral. Refer to Owner's Manual to follow additional steps.

\*Equipped with eCVT transmission.

**Note:** Some aftermarket camper centres offer kits that may allow vehicles with automatic transmissions to be flat-towed (Four-Wheel-Down Towing is sometimes referred to as "Flat Tow" or "Flat Towing."). Check your New Vehicle Limited Warranty, as this could void the warranty of your vehicle.



## TOW-DOLLY TOWING

Tow-dollies allow you to tow your vehicle behind a RV or motorhome if you are unable to four-wheel-down your car, CUV or SUV. Tow-dollies work by elevating the front drive wheels of the vehicle to rest securely on it while the back two wheels stay on the ground. They are not as long as the traditional trailers, which helps make turning corners easier.

Before using the tow-dolly there are a few things you must know before towing. Read the manufacturer's instructions that came with the tow-dolly before towing, loading or unloading the dolly. Attach the appropriate trailer hitch and drawbar hardware to the vehicle for the tow-dolly. Attach the dolly to the drawbar. The dolly should be completely secure and on level ground before the vehicle to be towed is put on or taken off the dolly. Drive the vehicle onto the dolly with its front wheels. Secure the vehicle to the tow-dolly according to the manufacturer's instructions. Follow the instructions for attaching and connecting the auxiliary lights to the back of the vehicle being towed. Test the auxiliary lights to make sure that the turn signals, stop lamps and running lights work properly.

2026 LINCOLN VEHICLES	AWD/4WD
Corsair	No <sup>1</sup>
Corsair Grand Touring	No <sup>1</sup>
Nautilus	No <sup>1</sup>
Aviator	No <sup>1</sup>
Navigator	No <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>AWD/4WD vehicles (ICE only) cannot be towed with 2 wheels lifted off the ground.

Individual vehicles have different restrictions and towing procedures. Contact your Lincoln Retailer for complete details.

Towing a trailer is demanding on your vehicle, your trailer and your personal driving skills. Follow some basic rules that will help with your towing experience.

## CARGO AND WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION

For optimum handling and braking, the load must be properly distributed.

Keep centre of gravity low for best handling.

Cargo and load capacity limited by weight and weight distribution.

Approximately 60% of the allowable cargo weight should be in the front half of the trailer and 40% in the rear (within limits of tongue load weight).

Load should be balanced from side-to-side to optimize handling and tire wear.

Load must be firmly secured to prevent shifting during cornering or braking, which could result in a sudden loss of control.

## BEFORE STARTING

Before setting out on a trip, practice turning, stopping and backing up your trailer in an area away from heavy traffic.

Know clearance required for trailer roof.

Check equipment (make a checklist).

## BACKING UP

Back up slowly, with someone spotting near the rear of the trailer to guide you.

Place one hand at bottom of steering wheel and move it in the direction you want the trailer to go.

Make small steering inputs — slight movement of steering wheel results in much greater movement in rear of trailer.

## TURNING

When turning, be sure to swing wide enough to allow trailer to avoid curbs and other obstructions.

## BRAKING

Allow considerably more distance for stopping with trailer attached.

Remember, the braking system of the tow vehicle is rated for operation at the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), not Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR).

If your tow vehicle is a Lincoln Navigator SUV and your trailer has electric brakes, the optional Integrated Trailer Brake Controller (TBC) assists in smooth and effective trailer braking by powering the trailer's electric or electric-over-hydraulic brakes with proportional output based on the towing vehicle's brake pressure.

If you are experiencing trailer sway and your vehicle is equipped with electric brakes and a brake controller, activate the trailer brakes with the brake controller by hand. Do not apply the tow vehicle brakes as this can result in increased sway.<sup>1</sup>

## PARKING WITH A TRAILER

Whenever possible, vehicles with trailers should not be parked on a grade. However, if it is necessary, place wheel chocks under the trailer's wheels, following the instructions below:

Apply the foot service brakes and hold.

Have another person place the wheel chocks under the trailer wheels on the downgrade side.

Once the chocks are in place, release brake pedal, making sure the chocks will hold the vehicle and trailer.

Apply the parking brake.

Shift automatic transmission into park.

With 4-wheel drive, make sure the transfer case is not in neutral (if applicable).

## STARTING OUT PARKED ON A GRADE

Apply the foot service brake and hold.

Start the engine with transmission in park.

Shift the transmission into gear and release the parking brake.

Release the brake pedal and move the vehicle uphill to free the chocks.

Apply the brake pedal while another person retrieves the chocks.

## TOWING ON HILLS

Downshift the transmission to assist braking on steep downgrades and to increase power (reduce lugging) when climbing hills.

## ACCELERATION AND PASSING

The added weight of the trailer can dramatically decrease the acceleration of the towing vehicle — exercise caution.

When passing a slower vehicle, be sure to allow extra distance. Remember, the added length of the trailer must clear the other vehicle before you can pull back in.

Signal and make your pass on level terrain with plenty of clearance.

If necessary, downshift for improved acceleration.

## DRIVING WITH AN AUTOMATIC OVERDRIVE TRANSMISSION

With certain automatic overdrive transmissions, towing — especially in hilly areas — may cause excessive shifting between overdrive and the next lower gear.

To eliminate this condition and achieve steadier performance, overdrive can be locked out (see vehicle Owner's Manual for “Overdrive” or “Progressive Range Select”).

If excessive shifting does not occur, use overdrive to enhance performance.

Overdrive may also be locked out to obtain engine braking on downgrades.

When available, select Tow/Haul mode to automatically eliminate unwanted gear search and help control vehicle speed when going downhill.

## DRIVING WITH CRUISE CONTROL<sup>2</sup>

Turn off the cruise control with heavy loads or in hilly terrain. The cruise control may turn off automatically when you are towing on long, steep grades. Use caution while driving on wet roads and avoid using cruise control in rainy or winter weather conditions.

## TIRE PRESSURE

Underinflated tires get hot and may fail, leading to possible loss of vehicle control.

Overinflated tires may wear unevenly and compromise traction and stopping capability.

Tires should be checked often for conformance to recommended cold inflation pressures.

## SPARE TIRE USE

A conventional, identical full-size spare tire is required for trailer towing (mini, compact and dissimilar full-size spare tires **should not** be used; always replace the spare tire with a new road tire as soon as possible).

## ON THE ROAD

After about 80 km, stop in a protected location and double-check:

Trailer hitch attachment.

Lights and electrical connections.

Trailer wheel lug nuts for tightness.

Engine oil — check regularly throughout trip.

## HIGH ALTITUDE OPERATION

Your vehicle may have reduced performance when operating at high altitudes and when heavily loaded or towing a trailer. While driving at elevation, in order to match driving performance as perceived at sea level, reduce Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) and Gross Combination Weight (GCW) by 2% per 1000 ft. elevation.

## POWERTRAIN/FRONTAL AREA CONSIDERATIONS

The charts in this Guide show the minimum powertrain needed to achieve an acceptable towing performance for the listed GCW of tow vehicle and trailer.

Under certain conditions, however, (e.g., when the trailer has a large frontal area that adds substantial air drag or when trailering in hilly or mountainous terrain) it is wise to choose a vehicle with a higher rating.

Towing performance is maximized with a low-drag, rounded front design trailer.

## SELECTING A TRIM SERIES

Your specific vehicle's tow capability could be reduced based on weight of selected trim series and option content.

**Note:** For additional trailering information pertaining to your vehicle, refer to the vehicle Owner's Manual.

<sup>1</sup>Driver-assist features are supplemental and do not replace the driver's attention, judgment and need to control the vehicle. Remember that even advanced technology cannot overcome the laws of physics. It's always possible to lose control of a vehicle due to inappropriate driver input for the conditions. <sup>2</sup>Driver-assist features are supplemental and do not replace the driver's attention, judgment and need to control the vehicle. They do not make your vehicle autonomous or replace your responsibility to drive safely. Please only use if you will pay attention to the road and be prepared to take over at any time. See Owner's Manual for details and limitations.

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