

Trailerling Horses

Rounds With Doc T
“On The Road Again”

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My Story - “Tucker The Trucker”

I drive a lot.

I drive all types of vehicles from small cars to 18 wheel semi's.

I drive in all weather.

I shipped horses for a living before vet school.

There are 3 parts to this seminar

The Horse

The Equipment

The Drive

Some of this material is found in the topic “Trailer Horses”

<https://www.thehorsesadvocate.com/horse-trailer-introduction/>

The Horse

Prepare The Horse For Shipping

Feed it to remove gut inflammation - only pasture, forage, water, salt for 2 weeks.

Train the horse with short rides, loading, unloading, reward.

Get Coggins test and health certificate before you need them.

Vaccinate for respiratory and contagious diseases if needed 2 weeks before.

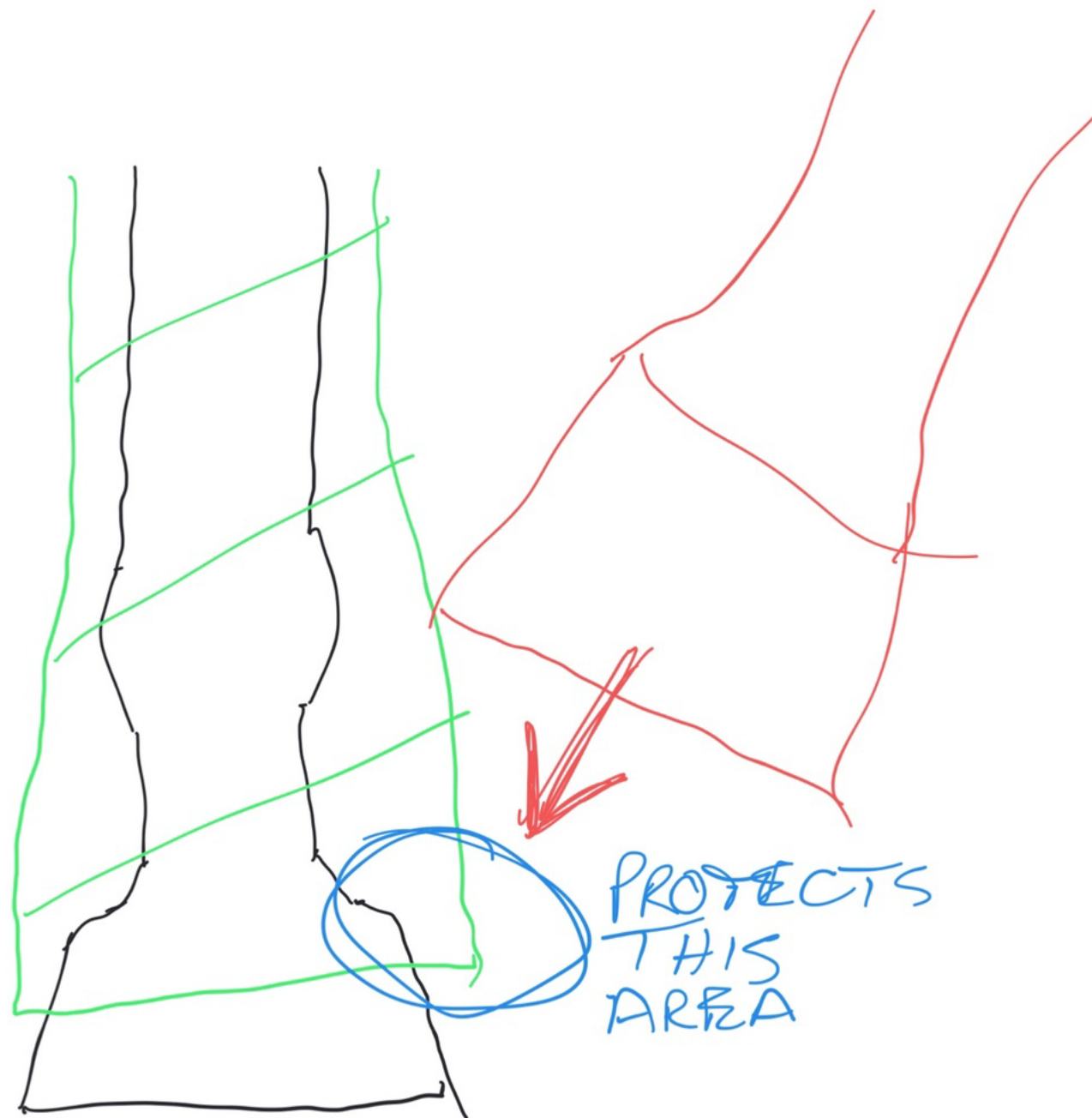
Prepare The Horse For Shipping

Wrap the limbs to protect the coronary band for ANY distance trip.

Isolate during shipping with strangers - nearly impossible.

Isolate after shipping from home horses - use a quarantine barn.

Lubricate the gut with oil? Stimulate the immune system? Sedate?



Prepare The Horse For Shipping

Provide hay to eat but this is unnecessary for short hauls.

Plan rest stops if over a few hours. Mandatory at 36 hours. Offer water.

The Equipment

Selecting The Equipment

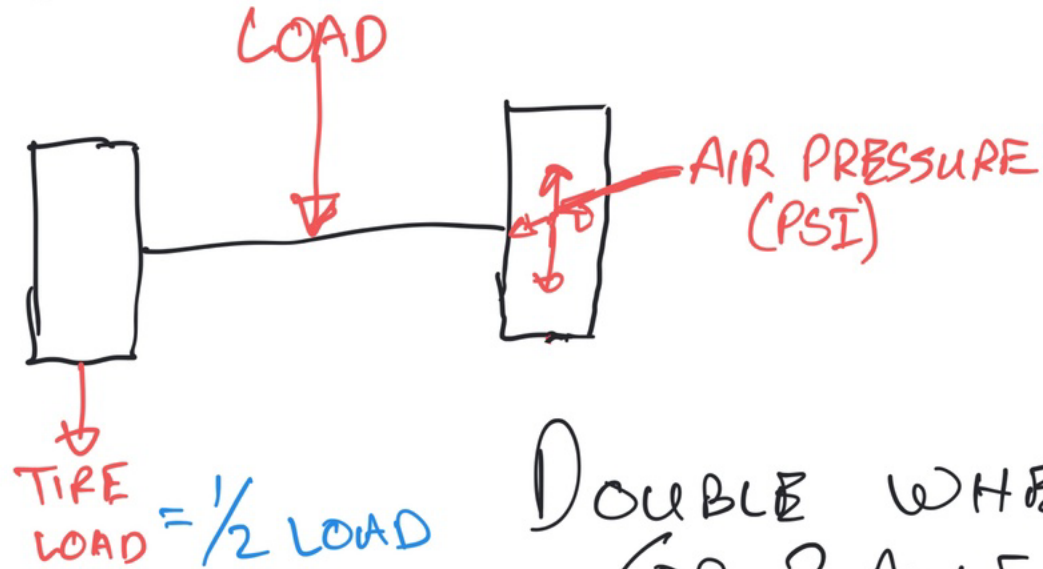
Over-buy the engine, brakes, suspension, frame.

Buy 2 axle trailers for safety against blow outs.

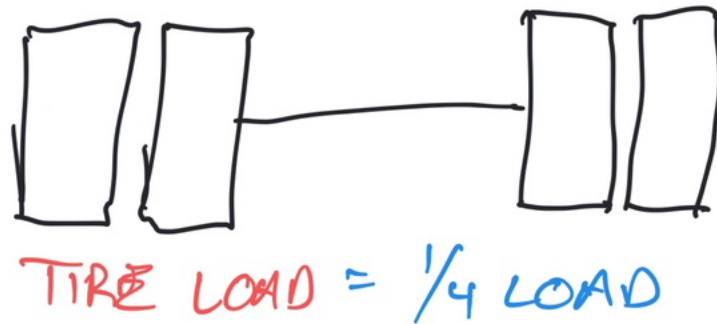
Buy single rear wheel truck unless weight demands a 4 wheel axle.

10 ply tires.

SINGLE WHEEL AXLE



DOUBLE WHEEL AXLE (OR 2 AXLE, SINGLE TIRE TRAILER)



AXLE LOAD = 4000 LB

TIRE LOAD - 2 TIRES = 2000 EACH

4 TIRES = 1000 EACH

LOAD RANGE E (10 PLY)

80 PSI @ 3042 LB

45 PSI @ 2030 LB

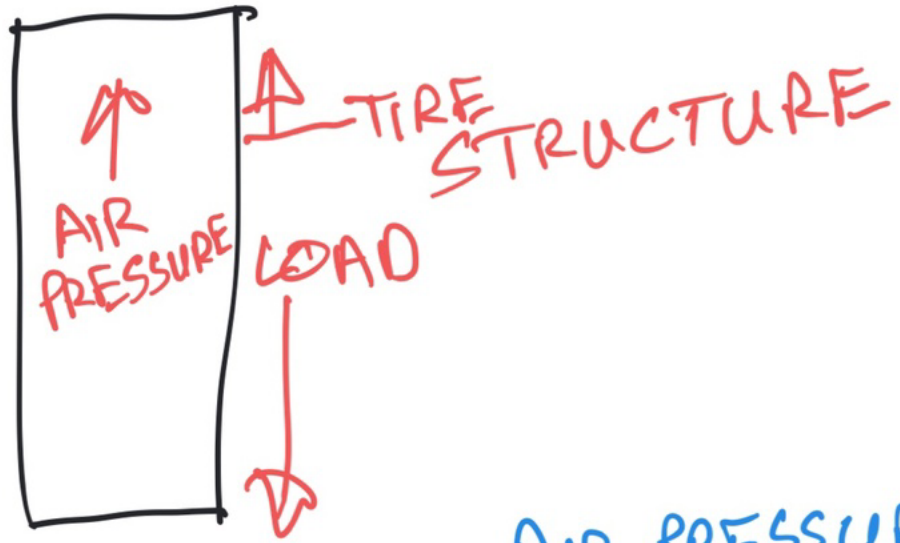
ALL PRESSURE IS COLD

This is the Pressure/Load chart for the 245/75-16E

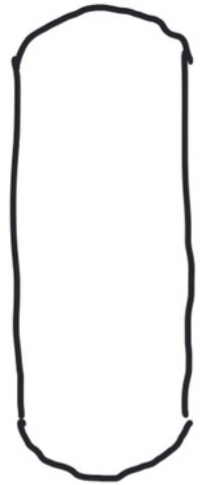
35.....	1700
40.....	1865
45.....	2030
50.....	2205
55.....	2335
60.....	2480
65.....	2623
70.....	2765
75.....	2900
80.....	3042

This means at 50 psi, your tire can support a load of 2,205 lbs. Multiply this by two tires and you can support a max of 4,410 lbs, short of the standard 6,084 rating when the tires are inflated to the recommended 80 psi. If your total rear axle weight was less than 4,410 lbs loaded up with your trailer hooked up then you should have had no troubles. If it was more than 4,405 lbs, then your tires may have been overheated and could be damaged.

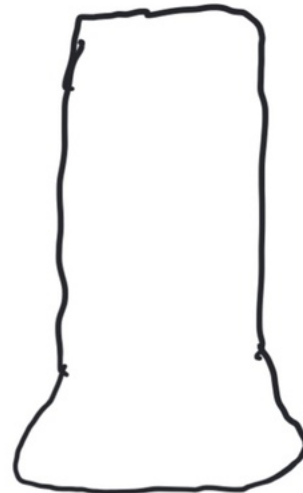
You can stay at 50/50 when empty but when loading up, you must air up your tires enough to cover the axle load you will be carrying. Best to go to a scale and see what the rear axle weighs and pick the correct pressure from there. You shouldn't run any more pressure than you need so if 70 psi covers your rear axle load (5,530 lbs), then that is all you need to run when loaded.



WHEN $\text{LOAD} = \text{AIR PRESSURE} + \text{STRUCTURE}$ THEN TIRE IS FLAT ON ROAD = MAXIMUM TRACTION + MINIMUM HEAT



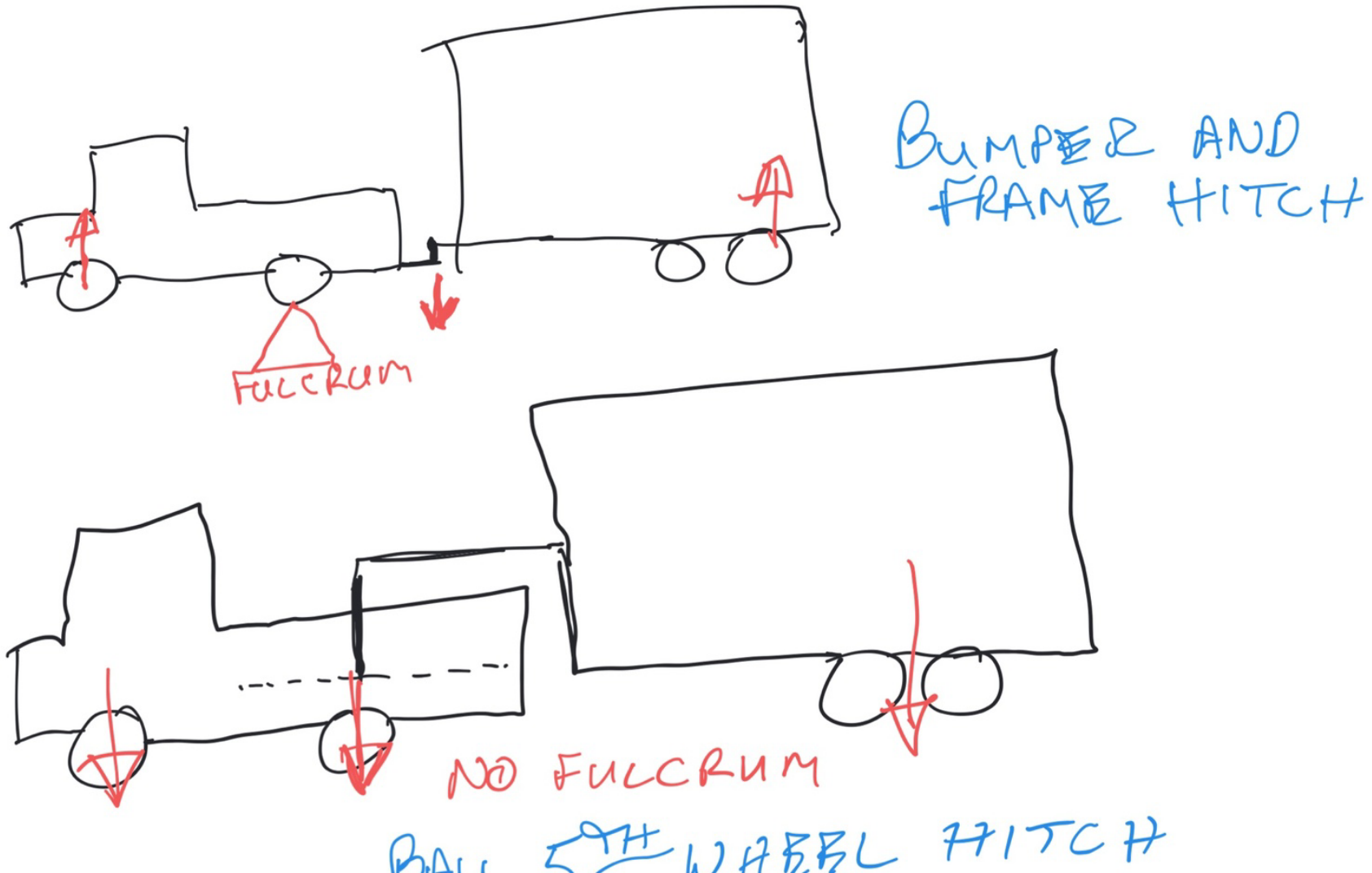
OVER INFLATED
+
UNDER LOADED
= POOR TRACTION
ACCIDENTS



UNDER INFLATED
+
OVERLOADED
= INCREASED HEAT
TIRE FAILURE
POOR CONTROL

Selecting The Equipment

Bumper v frame v ball or 5th wheel - preferences and expense



Selecting The Equipment

Length of trailer - longer is easier to back up and easier on horses.

Step up v loading ramp.

Number of doors (walk through v back out).

Slant stall v straight stall v box stall.

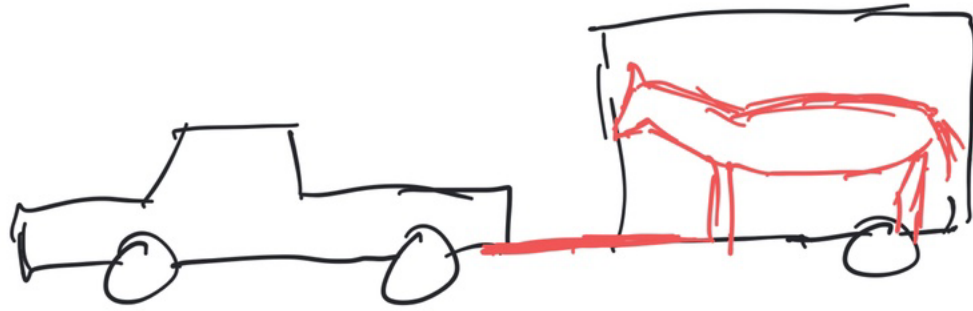
Selecting The Equipment

Brakes (hydraulic v air) and brake controllers (electric inertia)

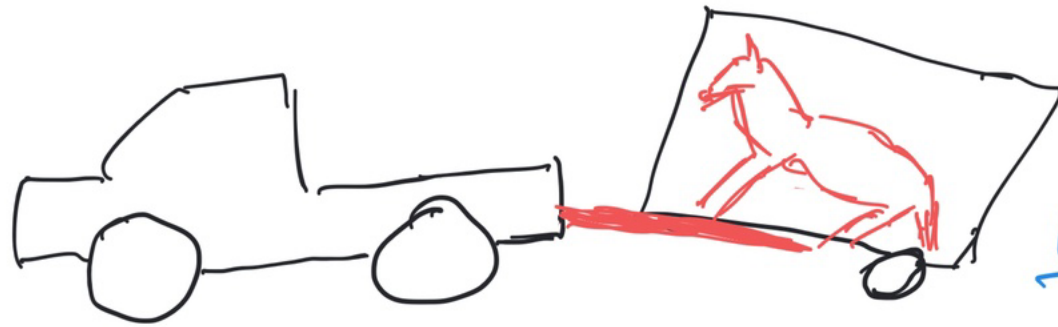
Anti-sway bars for short trailers.

Leveling the trailer with the truck.

Forward v backward facing horses - loading the limbs.



LIMB WEIGHT SAME
AS IF ON GROUND.



LIMB WEIGHT IS
HEAVIER ON HIND
LIMBS WHEN
TRAILER TILTS UP.

HORSE IS ALWAYS FALLING BACKWARDS
AND IS WORSE WITH ACCELERATION.

TRAILERS TIPPING FORWARDS DOES THE
OPPOSITE LOADING THE FRONT LIMBS
AND IS WORSE WHEN BRAKING.

The Drive

How To Drive With Horses

Keep registration, insurance, tow service up to date.

Take a ride in the back (if legal).

Practice hitching up and driving. Go empty to get the groceries.

How To Drive With Horses

Double check your safety. Check oil, tire pressure, and lights BEFORE loading.

Double check your hitch connection. Attach safety chains.

Breathe. Overcome your fears. Practice.

Drive like you own it but respect it and others you share the road with.

How To Drive With Horses

Accelerating - smooth, anticipate where you are going.

Braking - smooth, anticipate where you are stopping. Roll foot. Release at end.

Curves - smooth, anticipate where you want to be in the future, light hand on the wheel.

Backing - slow, back to the driver's side, look before backing, get out often, take your time, breathe, turn towards the mirror with the vision of the trailer.

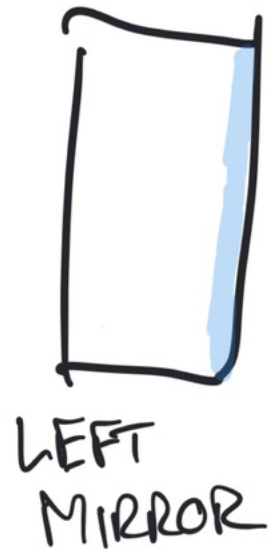
$$F = m a$$

FORCE = MASS * (DE) ACCELERATION

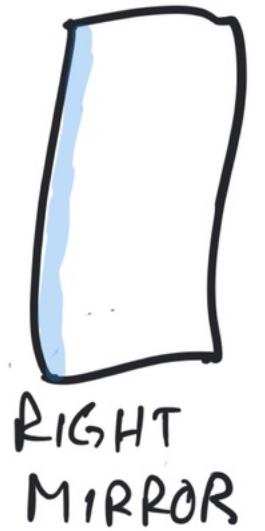
IF A HORSE WEIGHS 1100 LB (500 KG)

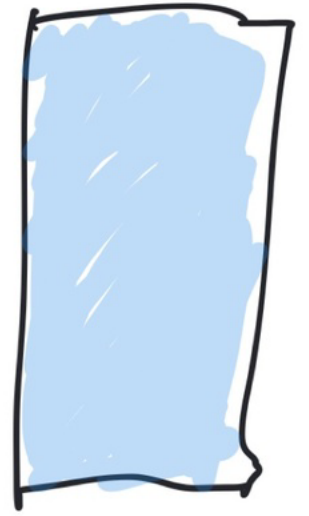
THEN FORCE = MASS AS LONG AS
THE TRAILER DOESN'T ACCELERATE
OR DECELERATE (FAST STOP OR CRASH)

SUDDEN CHANGES IN SPEED =
DAMAGE/STRAIN TO HORSES

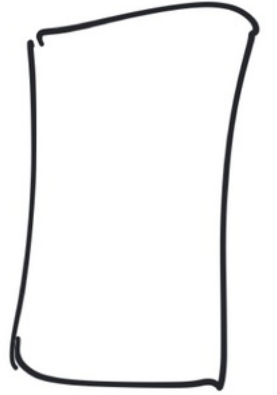
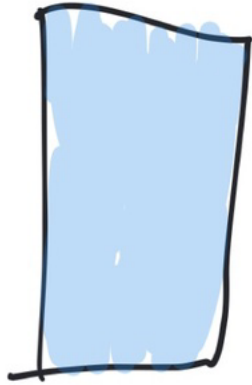


BACKING
STRAIGHT





TRAILER SHOWS IN RIGHT
MIRROR,
TURN WHEEL TO RIGHT
TO STRAIGHTEN TRAILER



TRAILER SHOWS IN LEFT MIRROR,
TURN WHEEL TO LEFT TO
STRAIGHTEN TRAILER

How To Drive With Horses

On the road break downs - phone, have help have a tow service for trailers.

On the road emergencies - phone, vet numbers, farm numbers.

Emergency trips (hospital, weather, disasters) - get all things in order, store water, hay.