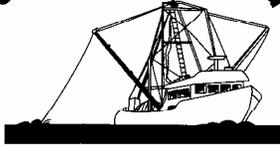
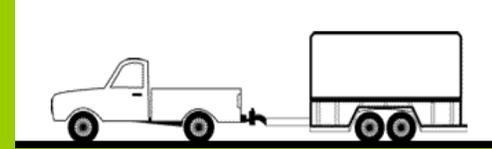


U.S. Coast Guard



Fishing Vessel Safety

Towing Safety Hooking Up Properly



1 Pre-Hook-Up Safety Check

- Tires-Tow Vehicle
- Tires-Trailer
- Tires blocked
- Tongue jack proper height
- Proper ball size

2

Install ball mount into the receiver.
Install pin into receiver.
Install locking clip to pin.



3 Back up vehicle to trailer

Use a spotter to guide driver while backing up.
Tip: Roll down driver's window to aid in verbal communication; spotter should be in a location where driver can see via mirrors and by turning head.

4 Proper Ball Alignment

Ball and tongue must be lined up correctly to make a secure connection.



5 Lower Tongue onto Ball

Carefully lower tongue onto ball using trailer jack.
Lower completely onto ball and make sure vehicle has complete load of trailer.

6 Secure Tongue

Secure tongue locking lever
Install tongue locking clip



7 Safety Chains

Install safety chains to a strong point on the tow vehicle. This is usually holes or D-rings on the vehicle's hitch.

Chains should be crossed to prevent tongue from digging into loose ground if becoming detached from vehicle.

8 Tongue Jack

Lower tongue jack completely and secure it for travel.



9 Lights

Connect trailer wiring to vehicle receiver plug.

10 Wheel Blocks

Remove wheel blocks from trailer wheels.

11 Check Trailer Lights

Check all trailer lights for proper operation. Do not tow trailer without working lights. Not only is it against the law, but extremely unsafe!

12 Tow Carefully

As you begin towing go slow and listen for unusual noises.

