

# FEDERAL LIGHTING REGULATIONS FOR TRAILERS

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Every lamp, reflex reflector, and conspicuity treatment must be permanently attached in the location specified below and must comply with all applicable requirements prescribed for it by FMVSS/CMVSS 108. The face of any device on the front/rear and sides should be, respectively perpendicular and parallel to the vehicle's centerline, unless it is photometrically certified at installation angle. No part of the vehicle shall prevent any device from meeting its prescribed requirements unless an auxiliary device meeting all requirements is installed.

**IN CANADA:** Manufacturers and importers of vehicles must have the proper certification test records demonstrating compliance of lighting components with all prescribed requirements.

## BASIC EQUIPMENT REQUIRED ON ALL TRAILERS

| DESCRIPTION |                                 |                       |  | MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS |               |   |   |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------------|---------------|---|---|
| Area        | Equipment                       | Coding                | Functional Purpose   | Quantity               | Color         | Location  | Height mm (in.) from the ground                           |
| 1           | Tail Lamps                      | (T)                   | Indicate vehicle's presence and width  | Minimum 2              | Red           | On the rear - symmetrical as far apart as practicable                 | 380-1830 (15-72)  |
|             | Stop Lamps                      | (S)                   | Indicate braking   | Minimum 2              | Red           | On the rear - symmetrical as far apart as practicable                 | 380-1830 (15-72)  |
|             | Rear Turn Signal Lamps          | (I)                   | Indicate direction of turn   | Minimum 2              | Red or Yellow | On the rear - symmetrical as far apart as practicable                 | 380-2110 (15-83)  |
|             | Rear Reflex Reflectors          | (A)                   | Indicate vehicle's presence and width  | Minimum 2              | Red           | On the rear - symmetrical as far apart as practicable facing rearward | 380-1530 (15-60)  |
| 2           | License Plate Lamp(s)           | (L)                   | Illuminates license plate  | Minimum 1              | White         | On the rear - above or at the sides of license plate                  | No requirement  |
| 3           | Rear Side Marker Lamps          | (P2, PC* or P3, PC2*) | Front and rear side marker lamps / side reflex reflectors indicate vehicle's presence and length | Minimum 2              | Red           | Each side at rear as far back as practicable                          | 380-1530 (15-60) no max. for veh. under 2032mm (80") wide |
|             | Rear Side Reflex Reflectors     | (A)                   |  | Minimum 2              | Red           | Each side at rear as far back as practicable facing sideward          | 380-1530 (15-60)  |
| 4           | a) Front Side Marker Lamps      | (P2, PC* or P3, PC2*) | Front and rear side marker lamps / side reflex reflectors indicate vehicle's presence and length | Minimum 2              | Yellow        | Each side at front as far forward as practicable                      | 380 (15) minimum  |
|             | b) Front Side Reflex Reflectors | (A)                   |  | Minimum 2              | Yellow        | Each side at front as far forward as practicable facing sideward      | 380-1530 (15-60)  |

## ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT FOR TRAILERS EXCEEDING THE FOLLOWING PARAMETERS Length 9.1m (30 ft.) or longer

| DESCRIPTION |  |                    |                                     | MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS |          |                                       |                  |
|-------------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Area        | Equipment                              | Functional Purpose | Quantity                            | Color                  | Location | Height mm (in.) from the ground       |                  |
| 5           | a) Intermediate Side Marker Lamps      | (P2 or P3)         | Indicate presence of a long vehicle | Minimum 2              | Yellow   | Each side near center facing sideward | 380 (15) minimum |
|             | b) Intermediate Side Reflex Reflectors | (A)                | Indicate presence of a long vehicle | Minimum 2              | Yellow   | Each side near center facing sideward | 380-1530 (15-60) |

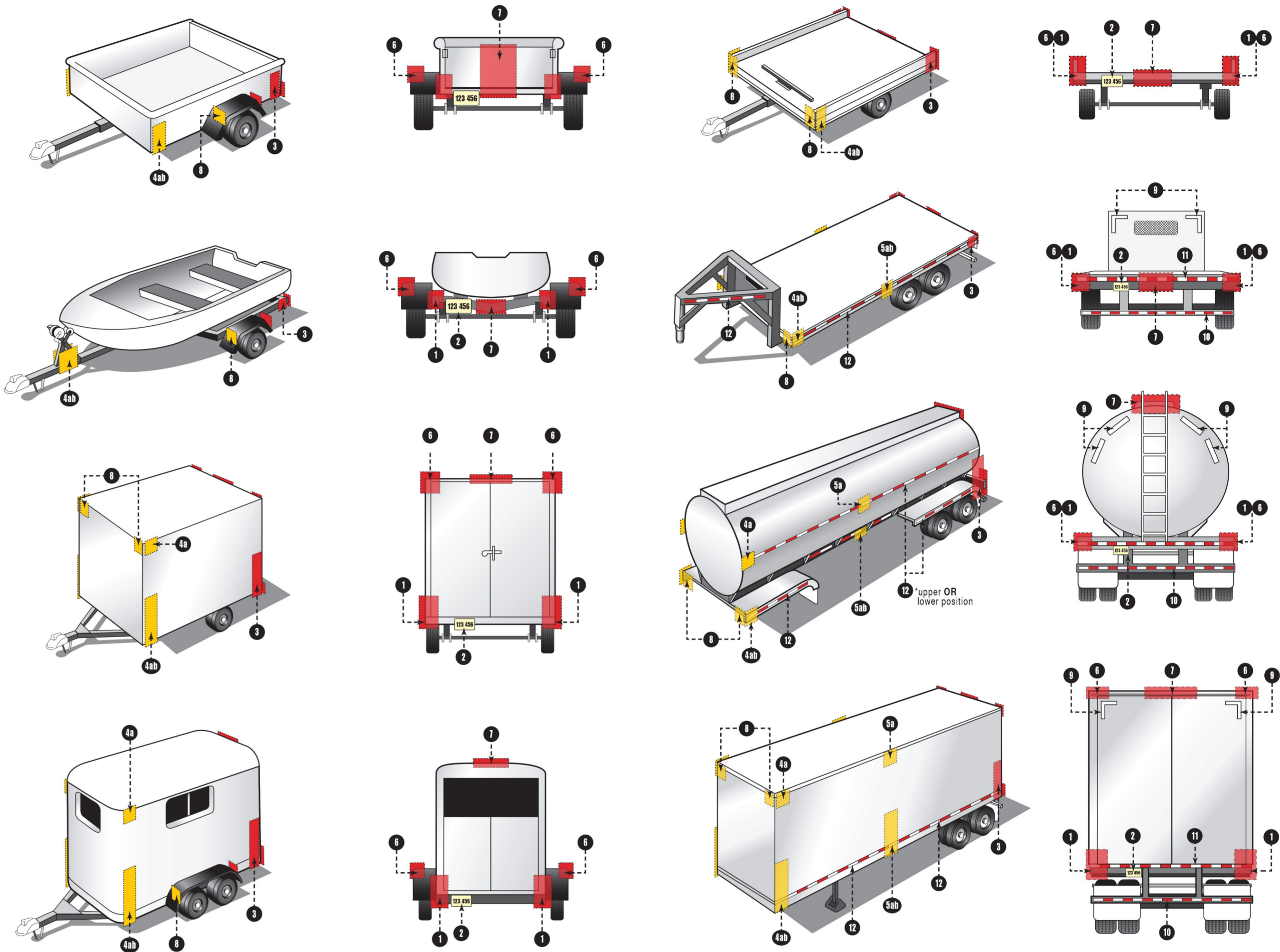
## Width 2032mm (80 in.) or wider

| DESCRIPTION |                                |                       |   | MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS |        |  |   |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------|--------|--|---|
| Area        | Equipment                      | Coding                | Functional Purpose  | Quantity               | Color  | Location   | Height mm (in.) from the ground                                     |
| 6           | Rear Clearance Lamps           | (P2, PC* or P3, PC2*) | Show vehicle's width<br>MAY NOT be combined with tail lamps | Minimum 2              | Red    | At widest point - symmetrical on the rear or near the rear facing rearward                     | As high as practicable may be lower only if ID lamps are at the top |
| 7           | Rear Identification (ID) Lamps | (P2 or P3)            | Indicate presence of a wide vehicle                         | Exactly 3              | Red    | On the rear - center horizontally spaced 150mm (6 in.) to 300mm (12 in.) apart facing rearward | At the top - may be lower if door header narrower than 25mm         |
| 8           | Front Clearance Lamps          | (P2, PC* or P3, PC2*) | Show vehicle's width  | Minimum 2              | Yellow | At widest point - symmetrical on the front or near the front facing forward                    | As high as practicable  |

## Width 2032mm (80 in.) or wider AND GVWR 4536 kg (10,000 lb.) or more

| DESCRIPTION |                          |                                     | MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS               |                         |   |  |  |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| Area        | Conspicuity Treatment    | DOT Coding                          | Quantity                             | Color                   | Location  | Height   | Options  |
| 9           | Rear Upper Body Markings |                                     | Exactly 2 pairs of 300mm long strips | White                   | On the rear upper corners facing rearward   | At the top   | Reflex reflectors may not be required if they are replaced in their required location with conspicuity treatment.              |
| 10          | Bumper Bar Marking       |                                     | Continuous                           | Red/White               | On the rear bumper bar's horizontal element full width - facing rearward  | No requirement   |  |
| 11          | Rear Lower Body Marking  | DOT-C<br>DOT-C2<br>DOT-C3<br>DOT-C4 | Continuous                           | Red/White (see options) | On the rear full width of the vehicle facing rearward   | As horizontal as practicable and as close as practicable to the range of 375 to 1525mm from the ground | Optional in Canada: Rear lower body and side conspicuity treatment may also be solid white, solid yellow, or white and yellow. |
| 12          | Side Marking             |                                     | (see location)                       | Red/White (see options) | Each side - facing sideward continuous, or evenly spaced over minimum of 50% of length starts and ends as close to the front and rear of the vehicle as practicable |  |  |

Note: The edge of red conspicuity tape shall not be closer than 75mm to the edge of any amber lamp and the edge of white conspicuity tape shall not be closer than 75mm to the edge of any lamp



For more information contact:

Transport Canada: Motor Vehicle Safety Enforcement Branch

National Highway Safety Administration: Office of Safety Performance Standards