



Safe load securing checklist

Stay safe and compliant

Correct loading and securing of goods on vehicles is essential to ensuring safe road transport. It is important that goods are secured on vehicles in accordance with recognised standards and in compliance with the national legal requirements for

road traffic, road safety and worker protection. In order to improve load safety in practice, the IRU has developed this checklist for safe loading and load securing.




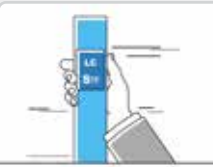
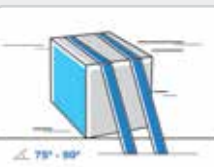

Before loading a vehicle

	<p>Make sure that the vehicle is suitable for transporting the load.</p>		<p>Determine the best method(s) to secure the load (blocking, direct lashing, top-over lashing or a combination of methods).</p>
	<p>Make sure that the load platform and the vehicle's bodywork are clean, in good condition and free from defects.</p>		<p>Decide on the number and type of lashings and/or chains needed to secure the load.</p>
	<p>Choose the appropriate loading equipment for the load.</p>		<p>Decide how many anti-slip mats and other securing materials (pallets, edge protectors, etc.) you need to secure the load.</p>




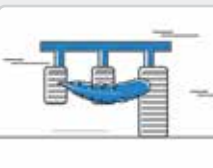
While loading and securing the load

	<p>Load in accordance with the permitted vehicle weight.</p>		<p>Arrange the load or its individual units optimally (heavier goods on the bottom with lighter goods on top).</p>
	<p>Load cargo in accordance with the permitted vehicle axle-load distribution.</p>		<p>When loading, consider the planned unloading sequence.</p>

While loading and securing the load

	<p>Avoid unnecessary gaps between individual load units.</p>		<p>Check that the securing equipment and materials are in good condition and free from defects.</p>
	<p>Make sure that the forces exerted by the load are distributed as evenly as possible.</p>		<p>Make sure that the markings on the securing equipment are legible and correct.</p>
	<p>Check that all lashings are fastened at the best possible angle.</p>		<p>Check that the securing equipment does not damage the load and that the load does not damage the securing equipment.</p>

During the journey

	<p>Check the load securing arrangements at periodic intervals during the journey.</p>		<p>In the event of emergency braking or another abnormal incident, check the load at the nearest safe place.</p>
	<p>Each time a load unit is unloaded, redistributed or loaded, adapt and recheck the load securing equipment.</p>		<p>Drive smoothly and anticipate traffic situations to avoid sudden changes of direction or heavy braking.</p>

This checklist is provided to you by the **IRU Academy**, the training arm of the **International Road Transport Union (IRU)**.

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