

# SINGLE OR DUAL AXLE TRAILER OPERATOR'S MANUAL



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# **WARNING**

▲ WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Lead, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov

#### INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on the purchase of your new Mi-T-M® Trailer! You can be assured your Mi-T-M® Trailer was constructed with the highest level of precision and accuracy. Each component has been rigorously tested by technicians to ensure the quality, endurance and performance of this Trailer.

The contents of this manual are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication. The Manufacturer reserves the right to make changes in price, color, materials equipment, specifications or models at any time without notice.



A "DANGER, WARNING or CAUTION" safety warning will be used to designate and emphasize Safety Warnings that must be followed when operating this Trailer. Accompanying the safety warnings are "Signal Words" which designate the degree or level of hazard seriousness. The "Signal Words" used in this manual are as follows:

DANGER: INDICATES AN IMMINENTLY HAZARDOUS SITUATION WHICH, IF NOT AVOIDED, WILL RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.

WARNING: INDICATES A POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS SITUATION WHICH, IF NOT AVOIDED, COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.

CAUTION: INDICATES A POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS SITUATION WHICH, IF NOT AVOIDED MAY RESULT IN MINOR OR MODERATE INJURY OR DAMAGE TO THE TRAILER.

The symbols set below are "Safety Alert Symbols". These symbols are used to call attention to items or procedures that could be dangerous to you or other persons using this equipment.









ALWAYS PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS MANUAL TO ANYONE USING THIS EQUIPMENT. READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS MANUAL AND ANY INSTRUCTIONS SUPPLIED BY MANUFACTURERS OF SUPPORTING EQUIPMENT BEFORE OPERATING THIS TRAILER AND ESPECIALLY POINT OUT THE "SAFETY WARNINGS" TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF PERSONAL INJURY TO THE OPERATOR.

Once the unit has been delivered, immediately write in the serial number of your unit in the space provided below.

SERIAL	. NUMBER	
SERIAL	. NUMBER	

Inspect for signs of obvious or concealed freight damage. If damage does exist, file a claim with the transportation company immediately. Be sure that all damaged parts are replaced and that the mechanical and electrical problems are corrected prior to operation of the unit. If you require service, contact Mi-T-M® Customer Service.

Mi-T-M® Corporation, 8650 Enterprise Drive, Peosta, IA 52068 563-556-7484 / 800-553-9053 / Fax 563-556-1235 Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. CST

Please have the following information available for all service calls:

- 1. Model Number
- 2. Serial Number
- 3. Date and Place of Purchase



## THE FOLLOWING PAGES CONTAIN OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TOW YOUR TRAILER UNTIL YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS LISTED IN THIS MANUAL.

**INCORRECT OPERATION CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY!!** 

DO NOT ALTER OR MODIFY THIS TRAILER IN ANY MANNER!

#### PRE OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

#### **SAFETY:**

# WARNING: DO NOT OPERATE TRAILER UNTIL THIS MANUAL HAS BEEN READ AND UNDERSTOOD.

1. Thoroughly read and understand all instructions before operating this trailer.

#### **REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS:**

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying the trailer manufacturer.

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, and your local dealer.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll free at 1-800-424-9393 (or 366-0123 in Washington, DC area) or write to NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590. You can also obtain information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.

#### **BEFORE TOWING TRAILER:**

WARNING: BEFORE USING A TOW VEHICLE WITH A TRAILER, VERIFY THAT THE VEHICLE IS DESIGNED FOR THE LOAD. USING A VEHICLE THAT IS TOO SMALL IS VERY DANGEROUS. BE CERTAIN THAT IT CAN HANDLE THE M.G.T.W. (MAXIMUM GROSS TRAILER WEIGHT) AND THE TONGUE WEIGHT FOR SAFE TOWING AND BRAKING.

#### SELECTING THE PROPER TOWING EQUIPMENT

#### WEIGHT

When selecting the proper towing equipment, the two most important factors that must be considered are the M.G.T.W. (Maximum Gross Trailer Weight) and the Tongue Weight. The M.G.T.W. is the total weight of the trailer plus the payload in the trailer. The tongue weight is the downward pressure exerted at the coupler. The easiest way to measure the gross trailer weight is to place the loaded trailer on a vehicle scale making sure that the scales are supporting the entire weight of the loaded trailer.

The easiest method to measure tongue weight (up to 300 lbs.) is to place the jack stand (trailer tongue) on a bathroom scale making sure the trailer is level. For heavier tongue weights, place a board across the bathroom scale and a solid object of the same thickness as the scales with a piece of pipe between each. The trailer tongue should be level and in its normal towing position. Multiply the scale reading by three (3) to obtain the tongue weight. Make sure the tow vehicle is able to tow the load.

- Be sure hitch capacity is equal to or greater than the load when mounted on the vehicle.
- Be sure the size and rating of the hitch ball is equal to or greater than the load.
- Make sure the safety chain(s) rating is equal to or greater than twice the maximum gross trailer weight rating of your trailer.
- It is against the law to carry passengers in the back of any trailer.
- Any alterations or changes made to the trailer void any express or implied warranties on the trailer or towing equipment.
- Check lug nuts for tightness before initial trip, at 25 miles, every 100 miles of operation thereafter.

#### **TOW VEHICLE**

Make sure the vehicle you are using to tow the trailer is capable of towing the weight. Check the vehicle Owner's Manual for towing capability of the towing vehicle or contact the car dealer for this information. Make sure the tow vehicle is able to tow the load. Vehicle brake capacity is extremely critical and the tow vehicle must be able to handle the additional weight of the trailer. Radiator and transmission cooling must also be considered.

#### PRE OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

#### TOW HITCH CAPACITY

Hitch Class	tch Class Maximum Tow Capacity Maximum Tongue	
Sub Class I	1000 Lbs.	100 Lbs.
Class I	2000 Lbs.	200 Lbs.
Class II	3500 Lbs.	300 Lbs.
Class III and 4	5000 Lbs. Plus	500 Lbs. Plus

#### **ELECTRICAL TRAILER WIRING**

All trailers must have taillights, brake lights and turn signals connected to the towing vehicle's electrical system. It is also recommended that a heavy duty turn signal flasher and emergency flasher (if separate) be installed since the trailer lights place an extra load on car flasher units.

#### TOWING HEAVY TRAILER LOADS

**Trailer Brakes.** In all cases refer to your vehicle's owner manual and the trailer operating manual to be certain you have an adequate braking system to handle the vehicle/trailer combination. Also, State requirements, road and weather conditions and grade of road, etc. should be considered for trailer braking.

**Additional equipment.** The following items may be helpful for towing heavy loads. Consult your vehicle's owner manual or dealership for recommended towing accessories.

- Overload Springs
- · Overload or air shocks
- Transmission Oil Cooler
- Engine Oil Cooler
- · Coolant Recovery System
- Heavy Duty Fan
- Side View Mirrors
- Sway Control

#### TIRE PRESSURE

Proper air pressure for your tires is printed on the sidewall. Check pressure while tires are cold. Do not raise or lower pressure to meet load. Pressure other than recommended pressure will lead to excessive tire wear or tire failure. **Balancing recommended**. Preferred balancing method is to center off of stud holes, since 13" through 16.5 wheels are not hub piloted.

WARNING: FOR A NEW TRAILER, THE WHEEL LUG NUTS SHOULD BE TIGHTENED TO THE PROPER TORQUE SPECIFICATION BEFORE USE, AFTER 25 MILES OF OPERATION AND EVERY 100 MILES OF OPERATION THEREAFTER. FAILURE TO CHECK THE LUG NUTS FOR PROPER TIGHTNESS CAN RESULT IN AN ACCIDENT DUE TO A WHEEL FALLING FROM THE TRAILER.

WARNING: NEVER OPERATE A TRAILER OR TOW VEHICLE THAT HAS A LOOSE, MISSING OR BROKEN LUG NUT. THE TRAILER IS DESIGNED FOR SAFE OPERATION WITH ALL LUG NUTS INSTALLED AND ALL AT THE PROPER TORQUE RATING. OPERATING THE TRAILER WITH ONE OR MORE BROKEN OR MISSING LUG NUTS GREATLY INCREASES THE LOAD ON THE REMAINING NUTS AND CAN CAUSE FAILURE OF THE REMAINING NUTS THAT CAN RESULT IN AN ACCIDENT DUE TO A WHEEL FALLING FROM THE TRAILER.

#### OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

#### WHILE TOWING TRAILER:

WARNING: NEVER ALLOW A PERSON TO RIDE IN OR ON A TRAILER THAT IS BEING TOWED. ALL STATES PROHIBIT PASSENGERS IN TOWED VEHICLES. A PERSON CAN FALL OFF AND BE STRUCK BY ANOTHER VEHICLE OR RUN OVER BY THE TOWED TRAILER. FAILURE TO **OBSERVE THIS WARNING CAN RESULT IN DEATH.** 

#### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS DURING USE

Loading Trailer. The trailer should be loaded so that the downward tongue weight is approximately 10% of the gross trailer weight. Hitch only to the hitch points recommended by the tow vehicle manufacturer.

Following and stopping distance. The stopping distance increases when towing a trailer. A rule of thumb for the minimum distance that should be maintained between you and the preceding car on dry pavement is one car and trailer length (2 car lengths) for every 10 MPH you are traveling. The distance should be increased accordingly depending on road and weather conditions. Avoid sudden stops if possible. Operate tow vehicle smoothly - no jerky turns, starts or stops. When possible, avoid operating the tow vehicle near ditches, embankments and holes and reduce speed when crossing uneven or rough terrain.

Passing. Accelerating and passing should be done slowly to allow extra distance for passing. Signal well in advance when passing and returning to the proper lane. Allow for the extra length of the trailer before changing lanes. Never change lanes abruptly as this may cause the trailer to sway and push the tow vehicle into a "jack knife" condition.

Turning. Allow for the extra length of the trailer. Drive slightly beyond normal turning point to avoid running over curbs and soft shoulders. Turning radius increases when towing. Reduce speed when turning, crossing slopes and on rough, slick or muddy surfaces.

Uphill and Downhill Grades. Reduce speed and use a lower transmission gear for steep or long up or down hill grades. Maintain safe distance from other vehicles.

**Parking.** When tow vehicle is idle, engage brakes and park lock securely.

- Avoid parking on uphill or downhill grades.
- Place transmission in "PARK".
- · Apply parking brake.
- · Use wheel chucks.
- In parking lot, avoid parking close to other vehicles. Turning radius is greater and it may be impossible to get out of a parking space after a few other vehicles have parked around your vehicle.

### ALWAYS TURN OFF TOW VEHICLE ENGINE BEFORE MAKING ADJUSTMENTS OR REPAIRS TO AN ATTACHED TRAILER.

#### **AFTER USE:**

- 1. Inspect trailer for wear or damage.
- 2. Ensure that all fasteners and fittings are tight.
- 3. Verify the stop, tail and turn signals are working properly.
- 4. Check wires for good connections and possible fraying or wearing of insulation.
- Check and properly maintain the trailer, hitch, jack, ball and coupler.
- 6. Inspect hitch and ball for damage. Ball or hitch can be damaged in parking, hitting curbs, dragging when crossing ditches or railroad tracks.
- 7. Check and properly tighten all bolts on trailer, hitch, ball and coupler (including wheels).
- 8. Check safety chains for wear and do not allow them to drag on ground or roadway.
- 9. Check tow vehicle tires for wear and proper inflation (check vehicle's owner manual for proper level of inflation of tires for towing a trailer).
- 10. Check trailer tires for wear and proper inflation. Replace only with a tire of the same size and capacity ratings.
- 11. For proper tow vehicle maintenance while towing a trailer, check vehicle's owner manual and manufacturer's specifications.

# **MAINTENANCE**

This trailer was produced with the best available materials and quality craftsmanship. However, you as the owner, have certain responsibilities for the correct care of the equipment. Attention to regular preventative maintenance procedures will assist in preserving the performance of your equipment.

Maintenance Schedule				
Tire Air Pressure	Inflate to proper pressure indicated on sidewall.	Every Trip		
Wheel Lugs, Bolts and Nuts	Tighten to proper torque specifications.	Every 3000 mi or 3 mos.*		
Wheel	Check for damage and or out-of-round.	Every 6000 mi or 6 mos.		
Coupler Ball	Check for sufficient lube.	Every Trip		
	Check lock mechanism.			
	Check for unusual wear.			
Safety Chains at Hitch Ball	Check for abrasion, distortion and general integrity of links.	Every Trip		
Coupler	Check for proper fastening and hitch pin in position and secure.	Every Trip		
Brakes	Check for proper adjustment and operation.	Every Trip		
Breakaway Switch	Test switch operation and connections.	Every Trip		
Load Distribution	Check load distribution and security.	Every Trip		
Leveling Jacks	Check fastenings. Lube.	Every Trip		
Welds	Check all weld beads for cracks or separations.	Every 6000 mi. or 6 mos.		
Hinges	Grease zerks with a Lithium complex grease.	Every 3000 mi. or 3 mos.		
Tie Down Devices	Check for fracturing, distortion and improper anchoring.	Every 3000 mi. or 3 mos.		
Electrical: Lights and Signals	Check to make sure all are working properly. Replace burned out bulbs.	Every trip		

<sup>\*</sup>Check lug nuts for tightness before initial trip, at 25 miles, and 100 miles. Recheck at least every 3 months or 3000 miles.



#### MANUFACTURERS WARRANTY INFORMATION

#### TRAILER OWNER WARRANTY POLICY

EFFECTIVE DATE: MAY 1, 2010

#### **LIMITED WARRANTY**

The Mi-T-M Corporation will repair or replace any part or parts of the Trailer manufactured by Mi-T-M Corporation that are found to be defective in material or workmanship or both, under normal use and maintenance, free of charge for the period specified below. Transportation charges on parts submitted for repair or replacement under this warranty must be borne by the purchaser. For warranty service, locate your nearest Authorized Service Dealer or call 1-800-553-9053 to contact Mi-T-M direct.

For products not manufactured by the Warrantor, the Warrantor warrants these products to the extent of the warranties of their respective manufacturers.

There is no other expressed warranty, including implied warranties, warranties without limitation, merchantability, performance, or fitness for a particular purpose. Liability for incidental or consequential damages are excluded to the extent exclusion is permitted by law.

Some states or countries do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts and some states or countries do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state and country to country.

#### **WARRANTY PERIOD**

**PRODUCT** 

TRAILER: 1 YEAR

The warranty period begins on the date of purchase by the first retail consumer or commercial end user and continues for the period stated above in the "Warranty Period".

No warranty registration is necessary to obtain warranty on the Mi-T-M Trailer. Save your proof of purchase receipt. If you do not provide proof of the initial purchase date at the time warranty service is requested, the manufacturing date of the product will be used to determine the warranty period.

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

- 1. This warranty does not cover parts damaged due to normal wear, misapplication or misuse.
- 2. Failure to follow recommended operating and maintenance procedures will void warranty.
- The use of other than Genuine Repair Parts will void warranty. Parts returned, prepaid to our factory or to an Authorized Service Center will be inspected and replaced free of charge if found to be defective and subject to warranty.
- 4. There are no warranties which extend beyond the description of the face hereof. Under no circumstances shall the manufacturer bear any responsibility for the loss of use of the unit, loss of time or rental, inconvenience, commercial loss or consequential damages.

If you have any questions regarding your warranty rights and responsibilities you should contact:

Mi-T-M Corporation 8650 Enterprise Drive Peosta, IA 52068 1-800-553-9053 www.mitm.com

Manufactured by Mi-T-M 8650 Enterprise Drive, Peosta IA 52068 563-556-7484/ Fax 563-556-1235