

Coupling Procedure

1 Before Coupling

1. Air Lines: Ensure air lines are hanging properly — no springs broken, and no cuts or cracks.

2. Glad Hands & Electrical Cord: Both glad hands and their metal/rubber seals must be present, secure, and undamaged. Electrical cord must be connected, secure, undamaged, and all plug holes clean.

3. Sliding Pins: Confirm sliding pins are locked in position. Air lines must not be cut, cracked, or leaking.

4. Fifth Wheel: Ensure the fifth wheel is securely mounted to the frame rails and undamaged. The top plate must be in good condition.

5. Release Handle: Set in the open position.

6. Lubrication: Fifth wheel must be properly lubricated.

7. Tilt Position: Fifth wheel should be tilted down toward the trailer.

8. Safety Pin & Slider: Ensure safety pin, slider, and sliding rails are undamaged and that no teeth are missing.

9. Height Check: Tractor and trailer should be at correct height for proper coupling.

10. Trailer Glad Hands: Both glad hands must be secure, undamaged, and have rubber seals in place.

11. Trailer Electrical Box: Must be secure, undamaged, and have no missing pins.

12. Apron Plate & Kingpin: Both must be secure, undamaged, and properly lubricated.

13. Kingpin Alignment: Ensure kingpin is aligned with the fifth wheel jaws, and jaws are open.

2 After Coupling — Don't Miss These Steps

- ✓ Perform a tug test
- ✓ Apply tractor spring brake
- ✓ Ensure release handle is locked
- ✓ Check for no gap between trailer and fifth wheel
- ✓ Confirm jaws are closed around the kingpin
- ✓ Raise landing gear completely(All the way up)
- ✓ Connect both air lines and electrical cable

Important Time Note

Coupling time limit: 8 minutes maximum

- ➔ If you exceed 8 minutes and 1 second, it results in automatic failure.

3 Final Check

After coupling:

1. Tell the examiner: "My trailer is ready to charge."
2. Go inside the cab and release the trailer spring brake.
3. Step outside and check for air leaks from the red air line.