Load Securement – Securing Pipes and Barrels Infographic



Properly tying down your load is essential for safe and legal transport. It helps to protect your truck and bed, as well as the integrity of the products you are transporting. Below are some basics in terms of securing your cargo.

Know Your Weight Limits

Most states have an 80,000-pound loading limit, but odds are your load will fall well beneath that limit. Avoiding overloading means you will be safer, not putting undue pressure on your axles, and not risking the costly fines that come with being overweight. Your goal is to transport your full load, but always err on the side of caution. It is also imperative that you check the load limits on your truck tires, and never pass a required weighing station, even when you are close to capacity.

Proper Weight Distribution

Aside from overall weight, you must factor in weight distribution when hauling heavy machinery or other uneven loads. For example, lumber will be fairly even, but cars or mixed goods can vary greatly. If your weight is too far forward, it will negatively impact your steering. If your weight is too far back on the trailer, it will make it more difficult to control your braking, traction, and steering. You may not know the weight of each item, but a visual inspection of the suspension will clue you in. Look for even suspension on all sides. Uneven loads can also lead to unnecessary (timely and costly) damage and repairs and will negatively impact fuel efficiency.

Source: https://www.uscargocontrol.com