

Coupling and Uncoupling



Connecting the Tractor and Trailer

#	Step
1	Inspect mirrors: Ensure both mirrors are clear.
2	Honk Horn: Honk the horn to notify others the tractor will be moving.
3	Reverse: Put the transmission into Reverse.
4	Back slowly: Back slowly to connect to the trailer.
5	G.O.A.L. – Get out and look. Verify the trailer height to the 5 th Wheel plate.
6	Listen and feel: Listen and feel for a positive couple. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen for the 5th wheel to latch around the kingpin. • Sense the feeling of the 5th wheel contacting the kingpin.

Tug Test

#	Step
1	Depress the Clutch
2	Transmission: Put the transmission into the lowest gear.
3	Release Clutch: Release the clutch slowly.
4	Transmission engages: Allow the transmission to engage.
5	Pull forward: Gently pull forward against the kingpin. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vehicle does not need to move forward to tug properly. • Since the brakes are still set, dragging the trailer even a few feet can damage the tires.
6	Parking Brake: Activate the tractor Parking Brake by pulling the yellow button on the dash.

Visual Search

#	Step
1	Inspect the 5 th Wheel Release Handle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verify it is locked into position. • Physically verify it is loose and not bound.
2	Inspect Couple: Verify the couple is secure by ensuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The locking jaws are around the kingpin. • The locking mechanism is in place. • The flange of the kingpin is below the locking bar. • There is no space between the 5th wheel and apron plate.

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