truck and trailer equipment guide
introduction

Every shipment is different, and the trailers needed to transport your freight have different specifications, capacities, and measurables to ensure your freight is transported properly. As a third party logistics (3PL) company, we work with many reputable carriers that use many different types of equipment designed to move your freight. In this white paper, we provide an overview of some of the more commonly used trailers, provide measurements, and visual examples of the equipment. This white paper is intended to provide you with a better idea and visual of what your freight is traveling on and the advantages/uses of each trailer type.
Jumping on the highway and driving for a minute or two will almost guarantee a dry van trailer sighting. As the most common freight trailer, any sort of non-hazardous freight requiring limited protection from the elements would use a dry van trailer. These trailers are typically loaded and unloaded through the rear doors, require elevated access for forklifts, and can hold 26 single stacked pallets or 52 double stacked. Since dry vans are so common, there is a high availability of this equipment.

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<th>Common Options</th>
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<td>Liftgate</td>
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<td>Vented Trailers</td>
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<td>Roll Up Doors</td>
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<td>Plate Trailer</td>
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Often referred to as “reefers,” refrigerated trailers carry freight that has specific temperature requirements. These trailers often haul perishable food, beverages, medicine, plants, or sensitive equipment. The refrigeration unit on the truck keeps the cargo at the exact temperature specified by the customer. Like the dry van, the refrigerated trailer can hold 26 single stacked pallets or 52 double stacked.

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<td>Produce Chutes</td>
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Flatbed trailers are used to haul shipments of large, heavy, and oversized loads that cannot easily fit within a dry van. Since the flatbed is an open platform, free of sides or stakes, the option of loading and unloading from the side of the trailer is available to the shipper or consignee.
A step deck trailer is a platform trailer with no sides, roof, or doors, and contains two deck levels. This trailer features a raised step at the front for the tractor and then the deck drops to a platform for the freight to sit on. The lower deck allows shippers to haul taller loads than they would be able to with a regular straight flatbed.
The double drop flatbed is another common form of the flatbed trailer. As you can see, the double drop has platforms at three different levels – the front for the tractor, the middle for the freight, and the rear platform for the rear wheels. The lowest level of this trailer allows customers to transport taller items than they would normally be able to with a standard or step deck flatbed trailer.
other equipment
Below are examples of commonly used cabs as well as some additional commonly used trailers and equipment.

Types of Cabs

Daycab
15,800 lbs.

Regional
17,800 lbs.

Linehaul
18,800 lbs.

Converter Dolly
Used to convert a semi trailer for operation as a full trailer.

Straight Truck
A straight truck refers to a truck in which all axles are attached to a single frame. They can run up to 26 feet in length and carry up to 14,000 lbs.

Conestoga
A commercial trailer with a removable top, allowing shippers and receivers to load/unload from the side of the trailer.
Conclusion

Trailers come in all shapes and sizes and have been developed to efficiently and seamlessly transport your freight from point A to point B. Keeping this trailer overview close by when getting quotes and shipping your freight will provide more insight and keep you well informed on your freight’s trailer requirements.
about us

PartnerShip handles hundreds of shipments a day and we’ve seen it all. As your shipping connection, we’re available to answer any questions you may have about your shipping. We’ll help you through the entire freight shipping process and secure the right trailer for your shipment.

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