

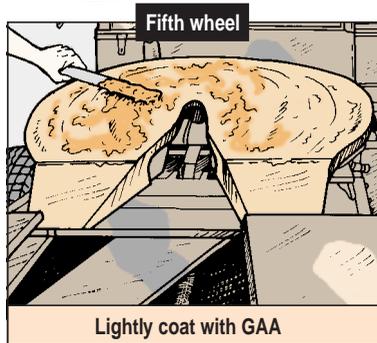
Heavy haulers need heavy doses of preventive maintenance, especially in times of heavy use. Tractors generally get the big end of maintenance, 'cause if they can't pull, the load doesn't go!

However, if the trailer's not maintained just as well, what's that tractor got to pull? Zip, zero, zilch!

Here are several tractor-trailer PM tips that'll come in handy for keeping your rig on the road and haulin':

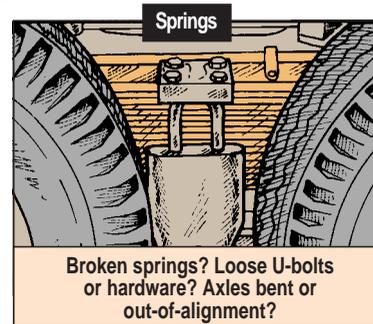
Frame/Suspension

For the tractor to pull any trailer, the fifth wheel's got to be in good PM condition. A light coat of GAA is all that's needed on the fifth wheel base plate and approach plate. Lube them



according to the vehicle's LO, usually every 1,000 miles or monthly. A 1/4-in coating will do.

Too much lube attracts dirt and crud and can damage the fifth wheel or the trailer's kingpin.

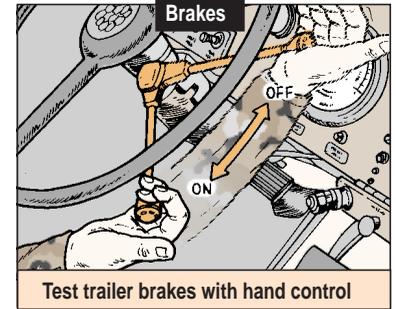


Brakes/Air System

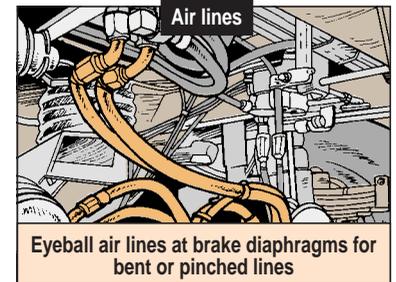
To check the trailer's brakes and air system, you'll need the tractor. Set the trailer's brakes with the tractor's trailer brake hand control. Move the tractor slightly ahead to make sure the brakes hold—then release them. Note: Make sure you completely release the brakes.

On trailers, look for cracks around welds, bolts and rivets at these sites: Crossmembers, tiedown points, side rails, upper coupler, subframe and rear bumper. Get under the trailer and eyeball the springs for cracks or breaks. Kick the U-bolts to see if they're loose. Take a look at the axles for bending or alignment problems.

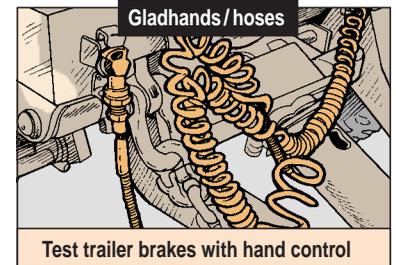
If the brakes remain on the least bit, they'll heat up and maybe catch fire.



Eyeball the air lines from the air tanks to the brake diaphragm. Make sure there are no cut or pinched lines.



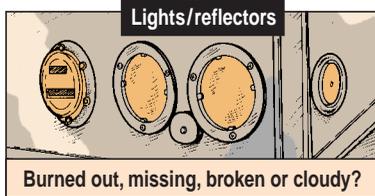
Eyeball the gladhands. Take a look at their air lines for chafing, bending or crimping.



Lights/Reflectors

Walk around the trailer and look at the taillights, clearance lights and reflectors. Lenses should be clean and undamaged.

Make sure the trailer's lights work. If they don't, let your mechanic know about it.

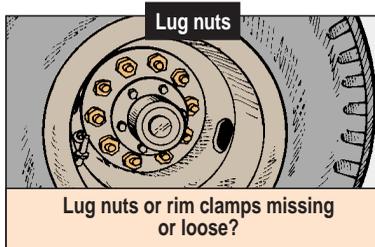


Tires/Wheels

Tires and wheels on trailers take a beating from highway and cross-country travel.

Always make sure the tires are inflated to -10 TM levels. Overinflated or underinflated tires wear out early.

Wheel nuts can loosen by themselves from vibration, so take a look at the nuts on every wheel. Look for chipped paint, shiny spots or rust flakes around a nut. That's a clue to loose fasteners.

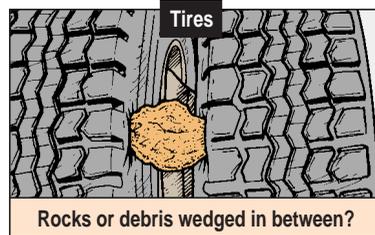


Axle covers on M870-series trailers are born leakers. When covers leak enough oil, axle bearings go dry and burn out. If you see oil dripping down

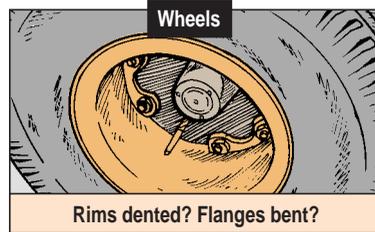
the tire, report it. Also, eyeball the hub's oil level. Make sure it's up to the mark.



Eyeball the space between dual tires. Remove any rocks wedged between them.



Eyeball the wheel rims for dented or bent rim flanges.



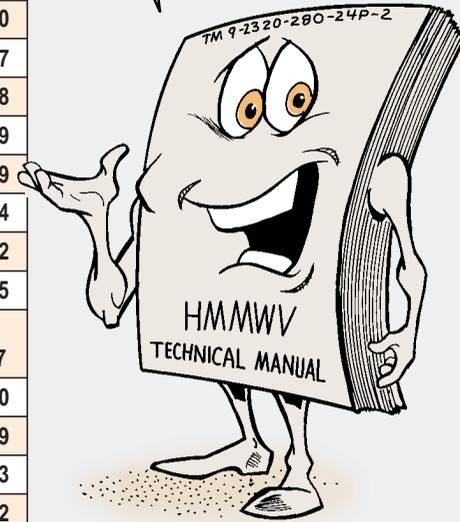
HMMWVs ...

CAMO COVERS AND KITS

The HMMWV parts TM is real good for info on tan and green vinyl covers and doors for the cab and cargo areas, but it's real short on info on woodland camouflage covers and doors.

That'll be changed with the next revision to the TMs, but until then, use this info to keep everything under cover:

Item	NSN
2-man crew soft-top kit	2540-01-434-8600
2-man crew soft top only	2540-01-450-4017
4-man crew soft-top kit	2540-01-434-8598
4-man crew soft top only	2540-01-450-4019
Cargo area soft-top kit	2540-01-434-8599
Cargo area soft top only	2540-01-450-4024
Troop area soft-top kit	2540-01-434-8602
Troop area soft top only	2540-01-450-4015
4-man crew curtain assembly	254001-450-5477
Front door, left hand	2510-01-450-5480
Front door, right hand	2510-01-450-5479
Rear door, left hand	2510-01-450-5483
Rear door, right hand	2510-01-450-5482



Wheeled Vehicles ...

Match Lenses to Bodies

A few mechanics have found out the hard way that you can't use a plastic and aluminum taillight lens on a plastic taillight body. Neither can you use an all-plastic lens on a metal taillight body. The lens assemblies are interchangeable, but the parts are not.

So use NSN 6220-00-179-4324 to get a plastic and aluminum lens. It carries part number 11639535. Use NSN 6220-01-359-2870 to get an all-plastic lens. It carries part number 12375841.