



TOW-TRUST TOWBARS

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CHECKING A VEHICLES TOWING CAPACITY

Tech Sheet

TOWING CAPACITY

Document Number

TECTOWCAP

Before fitting a towbar to any vehicle the VIN plate should be located and checked to ensure the vehicle has a capable towing capacity.

VIN plates are usually located on either the driver or passenger door jamb, or in the engine bay. You must locate the main plate showing vehicle weights, not just the VIN number found on the windscreen. It is important to abide by plated weights and never exceed them, doing so could do serious damage to the vehicle and is against the law.

Be aware that in some cases a vehicle will have a 2nd or even 3rd stage VIN plate added by a body builder or manufacturer, e.g. a motorhome or modified/extended chassis build, in these cases the last VIN is always the one we use for reference.

FORD		
e1*2007/46*1005		
*WF0YXXTTGYHE***5*		
2740	GVW	kg
5140	GTW	kg
1575		kg
1415		kg
W (mm)	L (mm)	a (mm)
A	2933	FCC

Example of a VIN plate
GVW - Gross Vehicle Weight
GTW - Gross Train Weight

FORD		
e1*2007/46*1005		
*WF0YXXTTGYHE***5*		
2740	GVW	kg
	GTW	kg
1575		kg
1415		kg
W (mm)	L (mm)	a (mm)
A	2933	FCC

Example of a VIN plate with no Gross Train Weight
No Towing Capacity

To calculate the towing capacity of a vehicle:

Subtract the Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) from the Gross Train Weight (GTW)

$$5140 \text{ kg} - 2740 \text{ kg} = 2400 \text{ kg}$$

Please note: You must always adhere to the lowest capacity rating whether that is the towbar or vehicle

If the GTW (Gross Train Weight) does not have a figure, has the same figure as GVW, or has dashes or a 0 then the vehicle does not have a towing capacity and is not homologated to tow. Therefore it is not possible to fit a towbar!

The maximum 'nose load' of a vehicle is legally provided by the vehicle manufacturer and can be found in the vehicle handbook. The towbar also has a maximum nose load found on the towbars blue label as the 'S' value. You must always adhere to the lowest nose load whether that be of the towbar or the vehicle.

Tow-Trust will rate a towbar for the maximum capacity in the intended vehicle range. However, the vehicle manufacturer may rate some models with a lower towing capacity, e.g. eco models or smaller engines. Please always be aware of this and always check prior to installation.

