

2-5. Driving information

Off-road precautions

This vehicle belongs to the utility vehicle class, which has higher ground clearance and narrower tread in relation to the height of its center of gravity to make it capable of performing in a wide variety of off-road applications.

Off-road vehicle feature

- 1 Specific design characteristics give it a higher center of gravity than ordinary passenger cars. This vehicle design feature causes this type of vehicle to be more likely to rollover. And, utility vehicles have a significantly higher rollover rate than other types of vehicles.
- 1 An advantage of the higher ground clearance is a better view of the road allowing you to anticipate problems.
- 1 It is not designed for cornering at the same speeds as ordinary passenger cars any more than low-slung sports cars are designed to perform satisfactorily under off-road conditions. Therefore, sharp turns at excessive speeds may cause rollover.

⚠ CAUTION**n Off-road vehicle precautions**

Always observe the following precautions to minimize the risk of serious personal injury or damage to your vehicle:

- 1 In a rollover crash, an unbelted person is significantly more likely to die than a person wearing a seat belt. Therefore, the driver and all passengers should fasten their seat belts whenever the vehicle is moving.
- 1 Avoid sharp turns or abrupt maneuvers, if at all possible.
Failure to operate this vehicle correctly may result in loss of control or vehicle rollover causing death or serious injury.
- 1 Loading cargo on the roof luggage carrier will make the center of the vehicle gravity higher. Avoid high speeds, sudden starts, sharp turns, sudden braking or abrupt maneuvers, otherwise it may result in loss of control or vehicle rollover due to failure to operate this vehicle correctly.
- 1 Always slow down in gusty crosswinds. Because of its profile and higher center of gravity, your vehicle is more sensitive to side winds than an ordinary passenger car. Slowing down will allow you to have better control.
- 1 Do not drive horizontally across steep slopes. Driving straight up or straight down is preferred. Your vehicle (or any similar off-road vehicle) can tip over sideways much more easily than forward or backward.

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Off-road driving

When driving your vehicle off-road, please observe the following precautions to ensure your driving enjoyment and to help prevent the closure of areas to off-road vehicles.

- 1 Drive your vehicle only in areas where off-road vehicles are permitted to travel.
- 1 Respect private property. Get owner's permission before entering private property.
- 1 Do not enter areas that are closed. Honor gates, barriers and signs that restrict travel.
- 1 Stay on established roads. When conditions are wet, driving techniques should be changed or travel delayed to prevent damage to roads.

n Additional information for off-road driving

► For owners in U.S. mainland, Hawaii and Puerto Rico:

To obtain additional information pertaining to driving your vehicle off-road, consult the following organizations.

- 1 State and Local Parks and Recreation Departments
- 1 State Motor Vehicle Bureau
- 1 Recreational Vehicle Clubs
- 1 U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management

⚠ CAUTION**n Off-road driving precautions**

Always observe the following precautions to minimize the risk of serious personal injury or damage to your vehicle:

- 1 Drive carefully when off the road. Do not take unnecessary risks by driving in dangerous places.
- 1 Do not grip the steering wheel spokes when driving off-road. A bad bump could jerk the wheel and injure your hands. Keep both hands and especially your thumbs on the outside of the rim.
- 1 Always check your brakes for effectiveness immediately after driving in sand, mud, water or snow.
- 1 After driving through tall grass, mud, rock, sand, rivers, etc., check that there is no grass, bush, paper, rags, stone, sand, etc. adhering or trapped on the underbody. Clear off any such matter from the underbody. If the vehicle is used with these materials trapped or adhering to the underbody, a breakdown or fire could occur.
- 1 When driving off-road or in rugged terrain, do not drive at excessive speeds, jump, make sharp turns, strike objects, etc. This may cause loss of control or vehicle rollover causing death or serious injury. You are also risking expensive damage to your vehicle's suspension and chassis.

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NOTICE

n To prevent the water damage

Take all necessary safety measures to ensure that water damage to the engine or other components does not occur.

- I** Water entering the engine air intake will cause severe engine damage.
- I** Water entering the automatic transmission will cause deterioration in shift quality, locking up of your transmission accompanied by vibration, and ultimately damage.
- I** Water can wash the grease from wheel bearings, causing rusting and premature failure, and may also enter the differentials, transmission and transfer case, reducing the gear oil's lubricating qualities.

n When you drive through water

If driving through water, such as when crossing shallow streams, first check the depth of the water and the bottom of the river bed for firmness. Drive slowly and avoid deep water.

n Inspection after off-road driving

- I** Sand and mud that has accumulated in brake drums and around brake discs may affect braking efficiency and may damage brake system components.
- I** Always perform a maintenance inspection after each day of off-road driving that has taken you through rough terrain, sand, mud, or water. For scheduled maintenance information, refer to the "Warranty and Services Guide/Owner's Manual Supplement/Scheduled Maintenance".

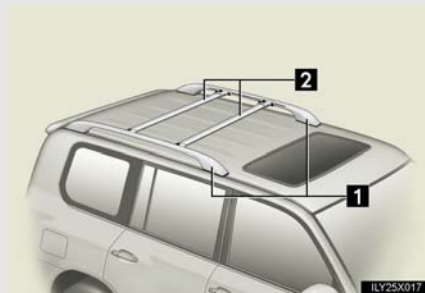
2-5. Driving information

Cargo and luggage

Take notice of the following information about storage precautions, cargo capacity and load.

- 1 Stow cargo and luggage in the luggage compartment whenever possible. Be sure all items are secured in place.
- 1 Be careful to keep the vehicle level. Placing the weight as far forward as possible helps maintain vehicle balance.
- 1 For better fuel economy, do not carry unnecessary weight.

n Roof luggage carrier (if equipped)



- 1 Roof rails
- 2 Cross rails

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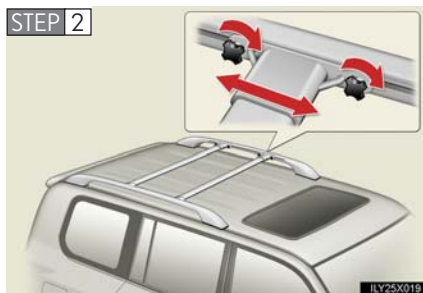
When driving

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Adjusting the position of cross rails



Turn the knobs counterclockwise to release the cross rails.



Slide the cross rails to the appropriate position for loading luggage and turn the knobs clockwise to tighten the cross rails securely.

Capacity and distribution

Cargo capacity depends on the total weight of the occupants.

(Cargo capacity) = (Total load capacity) – (Total weight of occupants)

Steps for Determining Correct Load Limit–

- (1) Locate the statement “The combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed XXX kg or XXX lbs.” on your vehicle’s placard.
- (2) Determine the combined weight of the driver and passengers that will be riding in your vehicle.
- (3) Subtract the combined weight of the driver and passengers from XXX kg or XXX lbs.
- (4) The resulting figure equals the available amount of cargo and luggage load capacity.

For example, if the “XXX” amount equals 1400 lbs. and there will be five 150 lb passengers in your vehicle, the amount of available cargo and luggage load capacity is 650 lbs. (1400 - 750 (5 × 150) = 650 lbs.)

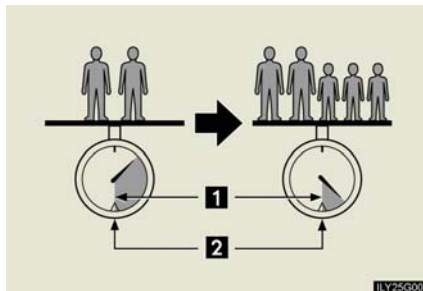
- (5) Determine the combined weight of luggage and cargo being loaded on the vehicle. That weight may not safely exceed the available cargo and luggage load capacity calculated in Step 4.
- (6) If your vehicle will be towing a trailer, load from your trailer will be transferred to your vehicle. Consult this manual to determine how this reduces the available cargo and luggage load capacity of your vehicle. (→P. 286)

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Example on your vehicle



- 1 Cargo capacity
- 2 Total load capacity

When 2 people with the combined weight of 366 lb. (166 kg) are riding in your vehicle, which has a total load capacity of 1230 lb. (560 kg), the available amount of cargo and luggage load capacity will be as follows:

$$1230 \text{ lb.} - 366 \text{ lb.} = 864 \text{ lb.} \quad (560 \text{ kg} - 166 \text{ kg} = 394 \text{ kg})$$

In this condition, if 3 more passengers with the combined weight of 388 lb. (176 kg) get on, the available cargo and luggage load will be reduced as follows:

$$864 \text{ lb.} - 388 \text{ lb.} = 476 \text{ lb.} \quad (394 \text{ kg} - 176 \text{ kg} = 218 \text{ kg})$$

As shown in the above example, if the number of occupants increases, the cargo and luggage load equaling the combined weight of the occupants who got on later, by an amount. In other words, if an increase in the number of occupants causes an excess of the total load capacity (combined weight of occupants plus cargo and luggage load), you must reduce the cargo and luggage on your vehicle.

⚠ CAUTION**n Things that must not be carried in the luggage compartment**

The following things may cause a fire if loaded in the luggage compartment.

- 1 Receptacles containing gasoline
- 1 Aerosol cans

n Storage precautions

Observe the following precautions.

Failing to do so may result in death or serious injury.

- 1 Do not place cargo or luggage in or on the following locations as the items may get under the brake or accelerator pedal and prevent the pedals from being depressed properly, block the driver's vision, or hit the driver or passengers, causing an accident.
 - Driver's feet
 - Front passenger or rear seats (when stacking items)
 - Instrument panel
 - Dashboard
 - Auxiliary box or tray that has no lid
- 1 Secure all items in the occupant compartment, as they may shift and injure someone during sudden braking, sudden swerving or an accident.
- 1 Never allow anyone to ride in the luggage compartment. It is not designed for passengers. They should ride in their seats with their seat belts properly fastened. Otherwise, they are much more likely to suffer death or serious injury, in the event of sudden braking, sudden swerving or an accident.

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CAUTION

n Weight of the load


- I** Do not exceed the maximum axle weight rating or the total vehicle weight rating.
- I** Even if the total load of occupant's weight and the cargo load is less than the total load capacity, do not apply the load unevenly. Improper loading may cause deterioration of steering or braking control which may cause death or serious injury.

n Roof luggage carrier precautions

To use the roof rails as a roof luggage carrier, you must fit the roof rails with two or more genuine Lexus cross rails or their equivalent.

When you load cargo on the roof luggage carrier, observe the following:

- I** Place the cargo so that its weight is distributed evenly between the front and rear axles.
- I** If loading long or wide cargo, never exceed the vehicle overall length or width. (→P. 684)
- I** Before driving, make sure the cargo is securely fastened on the roof luggage carrier.
- I** Loading cargo on the roof luggage carrier will make the center of the vehicle gravity higher. Avoid high speeds, sudden starts, sharp turns, sudden braking or abrupt maneuvers, otherwise it may result in loss of control or vehicle rollover due to failure to operate this vehicle correctly and result in death or serious injury.
- I** If driving for a long distance, on rough roads, or at high speeds, stop the vehicle now and then during the trip to make sure the cargo remains in its place.
- I** Do not exceed 154 lb. (70 kg) cargo weight on the roof luggage carrier.

 CAUTION

n Cross rail adjustment

Make sure the cross rails are locked securely by pushing forward and rearward them.

Failure to do so may cause an accident or severe injury in the event of emergency braking or a collision.

 NOTICE

n Cross rail adjustment

Do not remove the cross rail stoppers, or the moon roof may be damaged when it is tilted.

n When loading the luggage

Be careful not to scratch the surface of the moon roof.

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Vehicle load limits

Vehicle load limits include total load capacity, seating capacity, towing capacity and cargo capacity.

n Total load capacity: 1230 lb. (560 kg)

Total load capacity means the combined weight of occupants, cargo and luggage.

n Seating capacity: 8 occupants (Front 2, Rear 6)

Seating capacity means the maximum number of occupants whose estimated average weight is 150 lb. (68 kg) per person.

Even if the number of occupants are within the seating capacity, do not exceed the total load capacity.

n Towing capacity: 8500 lb. (3855 kg)

Towing capacity means the maximum gross trailer weight (trailer weight plus its cargo weight) that your vehicle is able to tow.

n Cargo capacity

Cargo capacity may increase or decrease depending on the weight and the number of occupants.

n Total load capacity and seating capacity

These details are also described on the tire and loading information label.
(→P. 589)

⚠ CAUTION

n Overloading the vehicle

Do not overload the vehicle.

It may not only cause damage to the tires, but also degrade steering and braking ability, resulting in an accident.

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Winter driving tips

Carry out the necessary preparations and inspections before driving the vehicle in winter. Always drive the vehicle in a manner appropriate to the prevailing weather conditions.

n Pre-winter preparations

- 1 Use fluids that are appropriate to the prevailing outside temperatures.
 - Engine oil
 - Engine coolant
 - Washer fluid
- 1 Have a service technician inspect the level and specific gravity of battery electrolyte.
- 1 Have the vehicle fitted with four snow tires or purchase a set of tire chains for the rear tires.

Ensure that all tires are the same size and brand, and that chains match the size of the tires.

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When driving

2-5. Driving information

n Before driving the vehicle

Perform the following according to the driving conditions.

- 1 Do not try to forcibly open a window or move a wiper that is frozen. Pour warm water over the frozen area to melt the ice. Wipe away the water immediately to prevent it from freezing.
- 1 To ensure proper operation of the climate control system fan, remove any snow that has accumulated on the air inlet vents in front of the windshield.
- 1 Remove any ice that has accumulated on the vehicle chassis.
- 1 Periodically check for and remove any excess ice or snow that may have accumulated in the wheel well or on the brakes.

n When driving the vehicle

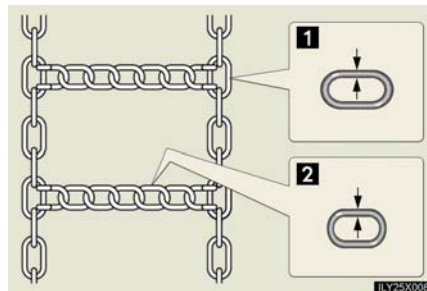
Accelerate the vehicle slowly and drive at a reduced speed suitable to road conditions.

n When parking the vehicle

Park the vehicle and move the shift lever to "P" without setting the parking brake. The parking brake may freeze up, preventing it from being released. If necessary, block the wheels to prevent inadvertent sliding or creeping.

Selecting tire chains

Use the correct tire chain size when mounting the tire chains.
Chain size is regulated for each tire size.



- 1 Side chain
(0.20 in. [5 mm] in diameter)
- 2 Cross chain
(0.25 in. [6.3 mm] in diameter)

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When driving

Regulations on the use of tire chains

- 1 Regulations regarding the use of tire chains vary according to location and type of road. Always check local regulations before installing chains.
- 1 Retighten the chains after driving 1/4 - 1/2 mile (0.5 - 1.0 km).

n Tire chains

Observe the following precautions when installing and removing chains.

- 1 Install and remove tire chains in a safe location.
- 1 Install tire chains on the rear tires only. Do not install the chains on the front tires.
- 1 Install tire chains following the instructions provided in the accompanying manual.

2-5. Driving information

CAUTION

n Driving with snow tires

Observe the following precautions to reduce the risk of accidents. Failing to do so may result in a loss of vehicle control and cause death or serious injury.

- I** Use tires of the size specified for your vehicle.
- I** Maintain the recommended level of tire inflation pressure.
- I** Do not drive at speeds in excess of the speed limit or the speed limit specified for the snow tires being used.
- I** Snow tires should be installed on all wheels.

n Driving with tire chains

Observe the following precautions to reduce the risk of accidents. Failing to do so may result in the vehicle being unable to be driven safely, and may cause death or serious injury.

- I** Do not drive in excess of the speed limit specified for the tire chains being used or 30 mph (50 km/h), whichever is lower.
- I** Avoid driving on bumpy road surfaces or over potholes.
- I** Avoid sudden turns and braking.
- I** Slow down sufficiently before entering a curve to ensure that vehicle control is maintained.

 NOTICE

n Repairing or replacing snow tires

Request repairs of and obtain replacement snow tires from Lexus dealers or legitimate tire retailers.

This is because the removal and attachment of snow tires affects the operation of the tire pressure warning valves and transmitters.

n Fitting tire chains

The tire pressure warning valves and transmitters may not function correctly when tire chains are fitted.

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Trailer towing

Your vehicle is designed primarily as a passenger-and-load carrying vehicle. Towing a trailer will have an adverse effect on handling, performance, braking, durability, and fuel consumption. For your safety and the safety of others, do not overload the vehicle or trailer.

To tow a trailer safely, use extreme care and drive the vehicle in accordance with the trailer's characteristics and operating conditions.

The vehicle stability and braking performance are affected by trailer stability, brake setting and performance, and the hitch.

Lexus warranties do not apply to damage or malfunction caused by towing a trailer for commercial purposes.

Contact your Lexus dealer for further information about additional requirements such as a towing kits, etc.

Weight limits

Confirm that the gross trailer weight, gross combined weight, gross vehicle weight, gross axle weight and trailer tongue load are all within the limits.

- 1 The gross trailer weight must never exceed 8500 lb. (3856 kg).
- 1 The gross combined weight must never exceed 14550 lb. (6600 kg).



- 1 The gross vehicle weight must never exceed the GVWR indicated on the Certification Label.
- 1 The gross axle weight on each axle must never exceed the GAWR indicated on the Certification Label.

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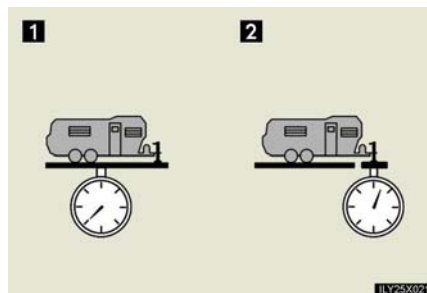
Towing related term

Towing related term	Meaning
GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating)	The maximum allowable gross vehicle weight. The gross vehicle weight is the total weight of the vehicle. When towing a trailer, it is the sum of the vehicle weight (including the occupants, cargo and any optional equipment installed on the vehicle) and the tongue load.
GAWR (Gross Axle Weight Rating)	The maximum allowable gross axle weight. The gross axle weight is the load placed on each axle (front and rear).
GCWR (Gross Combination Weight Rating)	The maximum allowable gross combination weight. The gross combination weight is the sum of the total vehicle weight (including the occupants, cargo and any optional equipment installed on the vehicle) and the weight of the trailer being towed (including the cargo in the trailer).
Gross trailer weight	The sum of the trailer weight and the weight of the cargo in the trailer.
Towing capacity	The maximum allowable gross trailer weight. Towing capacity is calculated considering the base vehicle with necessary vehicle equipment and occupants. Additional optional equipment, passengers and cargo in the vehicle will reduce the towing capacity, gross trailer weight includes the trailer, cargo and necessary equipment for towing.
Tongue load	The load placed on the trailer hitch ball.

Trailer tongue load

- 1 A recommended tongue load varies in accordance with the types of trailers or towing as described below.
- 1 In order to ensure the recommended values shown below, the trailer must be loaded by referring to the following instructions.
The trailer cargo load should be distributed so that the tongue load is 9 to 11%.
(Tongue load / Gross trailer weight × 100 = 9 to 11%)
If the gross trailer weight is over 2000 lbs. (900 kg), it is necessary to use a sway control device with sufficient capacity.
If the gross trailer weight is over 5000 lbs. (2268 kg), it is necessary to use a weight distributing hitch with sufficient capacity.
If using a weight distributing hitch when towing, keep your vehicle level with the ground.

The gross trailer weight and tongue load can be measured with platform scales found at a highway weighing station, building supply company, trucking company, junk yard, etc.



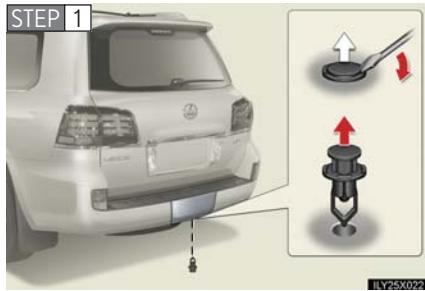
- 1 Gross trailer weight
- 2 Tongue load

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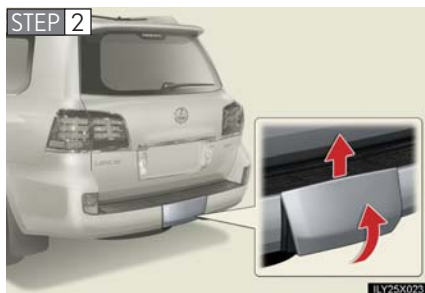
When driving

2-5. Driving information

Removing hitch cover



Remove the clip.

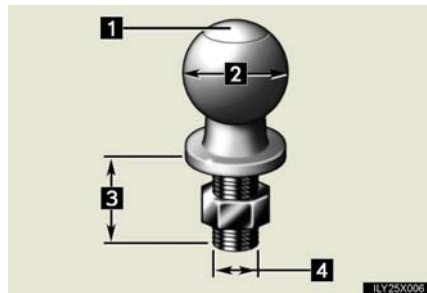


Grasp the lower edge of the hitch cover and raise the cover.

When reattaching the cover, reverse the steps listed.

Selecting trailer ball

Use the correct trailer ball for your application.



- 1** Trailer ball load rating
Matches or exceeds the gross trailer weight rating of the trailer.
- 2** Ball diameter
Matches the size of the trailer coupler. Most couplers are stamped with the required trailer ball size.
- 3** Shank length
Protrudes beyond the bottom of the lock washer and nut at least 2 threads.
- 4** Shank diameter
Matches the ball mount hole diameter size.

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Connecting trailer lights



Use the wire harness stored in the rear end under body.

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Connecting and disconnecting a trailer

Stop your vehicle and a trailer in line and perform the following:

1 Connecting a trailer

STEP 1 Put the 4-Wheel AHC in the "LO" (low) mode.

STEP 2 Turn off the "ENGINE START STOP" switch or the 4-Wheel AHC.

STEP 3 Connect a trailer.

STEP 4 Turn on the "ENGINE START STOP" switch or the 4-Wheel AHC.

STEP 5 Select the "N" (normal) mode with the height select switch.

When a vehicle loaded with four occupants tows a trailer of about 4000 lb. (1800 kg) with more than about 400 lb. (180 kg) tongue load, the normal mode may not be selected. However, there is no problem to continue normal driving. Drive with sufficient care because of large load.

1 Disconnecting a trailer

- STEP 1** Put the 4-Wheel AHC in the “LO” (low) mode. (Make sure the vehicle height is in the “LO” mode by pulling the switch to “v” on the height select switch.)
- STEP 2** Turn off the “ENGINE START STOP” switch or the 4-Wheel AHC.
- STEP 3** Set the supporting leg of a trailer on the ground and raise the hitch by 4 in. (100 mm).
- STEP 4** Turn on the “ENGINE START STOP” switch or the 4-Wheel AHC.
- STEP 5** Wait for about 20 seconds until the rear vehicle height is lowered by the automatic leveling function.
- STEP 6** Make sure the hitch is disconnected. If not, raise the hitch higher and repeat steps 2 through 5.
- STEP 7** Move the vehicle forward in the “LO” mode where the hitch does not touch anything in the “N” (normal) mode.
- STEP 8** Put the 4-Wheel AHC in the “N” mode.

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When driving

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Trailer towing tips

Your vehicle will handle differently when towing a trailer. In order to avoid accident, death or serious injury, keep the following in mind when towing:

- 1 Before starting out, check the trailer lights and the vehicle-trailer connections. Recheck after driving a short distance.
- 1 Practice turning, stopping and reversing with the trailer attached in an area away from traffic until you become accustomed to the feel of the vehicle.
- 1 Reversing with a trailer attached is difficult and requires practice. Grip the bottom of the steering wheel and move your hand to the left to move the trailer to the left. Move your hand to the right to move the trailer to right. (This is generally opposite to reversing without a trailer attached.) Avoid sharp or prolonged turning. Have someone guide you when reversing to reduce the risk of an accident.
- 1 As stopping distance is increased when towing a trailer, vehicle-to-vehicle distance should be increased. For each 10 mph (16 km/h) of speed, allow at least one vehicle and trailer length.
- 1 Avoid sudden braking as you may skid, resulting in jackknifing and loss of control. This is especially true on wet or slippery surfaces.
- 1 Avoid jerky starts or sudden acceleration.
- 1 Avoid jerky steering and sharp turns, and slow down before making turns.

- 1 Note that when making a turn, the trailer wheels will be closer than the vehicle wheels to the inside of the turn. Compensate by making a larger than normal turning radius.
- 1 Crosswinds and rough roads will adversely affect handling of your vehicle and trailer, causing sway. Periodically check the rear to prepare for being passed by large trucks or buses, which may cause your vehicle and trailer to sway. If swaying occurs, firmly grip the steering wheel, reduce speed immediately but gradually, and steer straight ahead. Never increase speed. If you make no extreme correction with the steering or brakes, your vehicle and trailer will stabilize.
- 1 Take care when passing other vehicles. Passing requires considerable distance. After passing a vehicle, do not forget the length of your trailer, and be sure you have plenty of room before changing lanes.
- 1 In order to maintain engine braking efficiency when driving on a long steep downgrade, do not use overdrive. Transmission shift range position must be in "4", in "S" mode.
- 1 Due to the added load of the trailer, your vehicle's engine may overheat on hot days (at temperatures over 85°F [30°C]) when driving up a long or steep grade. If the engine coolant temperature gauge indicates overheating, immediately turn off the air conditioning (if in use), pull your vehicle off the road and stop in a safe spot. (→P. 678)

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- 1 Always place wheel blocks under both the vehicle and the trailer wheels when parking. Apply the parking brake firmly, and put the transmission in "P". Avoid parking on a slope, but if unavoidable, do so only after performing the following:

STEP 1 Apply the brakes and keep them applied.

STEP 2 Have someone place wheel blocks under both the vehicle and trailer wheels.

STEP 3 When the wheel blocks are in place, release the brakes slowly until the blocks absorb the load.

STEP 4 Apply the parking brake firmly.

STEP 5 Shift into "P" and turn off the engine.

- 1 When restarting after parking on a slope:

STEP 1 With the transmission in the "P" position, start the engine. Be sure to keep the brake pedal pressed.

STEP 2 Shift into "3", "2", "1", or "R" position (if reversing).

STEP 3 Release the parking brake and brake pedal, and slowly pull or back away from the wheel blocks. Stop and apply the brakes.

STEP 4 Have someone retrieve the blocks.

n Before towing

Check that the following conditions are met:

- 1 The vehicle's tires are properly inflated.
- 1 Trailer tires are inflated according to the trailer manufacturer's recommendation.
- 1 All trailer lights work.
- 1 All lights work each time you connect them.
- 1 The trailer ball is set up at the proper height for the coupler on the trailer.
- 1 The vehicle remains level when a loaded or unloaded trailer is hitched. Do not drive if the vehicle is not level, and check for improper tongue load, overloading, worn suspension, or other possible causes.
- 1 The trailer cargo is securely loaded.
- 1 The rear view mirrors conform to all applicable federal, state/provincial or local regulations. If they do not, install rear view mirrors appropriate for towing purposes.

n Break-in schedule

Lexus recommends that you do not use a new vehicle or a vehicle with any new power train components (engine, transmission, differential, wheel bearings, etc.) to tow a trailer for the first 500 miles (800 km) of driving.

n Maintenance

- 1 If you tow a trailer, your vehicle will require more frequent maintenance due to the additional load. (See "Warranty and Services Guide/Owner's Manual Supplement/Scheduled Maintenance".)
- 1 Retighten the fixing bolts of the towing ball after approximately 600 miles (1000 km) of trailer towing.

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CAUTION

n Trailer towing precautions

- I** Follow all the instructions described in this section. Failure to do so could cause an accident resulting in death or serious injury.
- I** Exceeding the towing capacity, GVWR, GCWR and GAWR can cause an accident resulting in death or serious personal injuries.

n To avoid accident or injury

- I** Do not exceed 45 mph (72 km/h) or the posted towing speed limit, whichever is lower. As instability (swaying) of the towing vehicle-trailer combination increases as speed increases, exceeding 45 mph (72 km/h) may cause loss of control.
- I** Slow down and downshift before descending steep or long downhill grades. Do not make sudden downshifts.
- I** Avoid holding the brake pedal down too long or applying the brakes too frequently. This could cause the brakes to overheat and result in reduced braking efficiency.
- I** Do not exceed the trailer hitch assembly weight, gross vehicle weight, gross axle weight and trailer tongue load capacities.
- I** Never load more weight in the back than in the front of the trailer. About 60% of the load should be in the front half of the trailer, and the remaining 40% in the rear.
- I** Do not use cruise control when you are towing.
- I** Set the vehicle height to the low mode and turn off the 4-Wheel AHC to prevent the vehicle height from automatically changing.

⚠ CAUTION**n Hitches**

- ! Lubricate the hitch ball with a light coat of grease.
- ! If using a weight distributing hitch when towing, keep your vehicle level with the ground.

n When towing a trailer

- ! If the gross trailer weight exceeds 1000 lb. (453 kg), trailer brakes are required. Lexus recommends trailers with brakes that conform to all applicable federal and state/provincial regulations.
- ! Never tap into your vehicle's hydraulic system, as this will lower the vehicle's braking effectiveness.
- ! Never tow a trailer without using a safety chain securely attached to both the trailer and the vehicle. If damage occurs to the coupling unit or hitch ball, there is danger of the trailer wandering into another lane.

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When driving

⚠ NOTICE**n When installing a trailer hitch**

- ! Use only the position recommended by your Lexus dealer. Do not install the trailer hitch on the bumper; this may cause body damage.
- ! Do not use axle-mounted hitches, as they can cause damage to the axle housing, wheel bearings, wheels or tires.

n Safety chain

A safety chain must always be used between the towing vehicle and the trailer. Leave sufficient slack in the chain for turns. The chain should cross under the trailer tongue to prevent the tongue from dropping to the ground in the case that it becomes damaged or separated. For the correct safety chain installation procedure, ask your Lexus dealer.

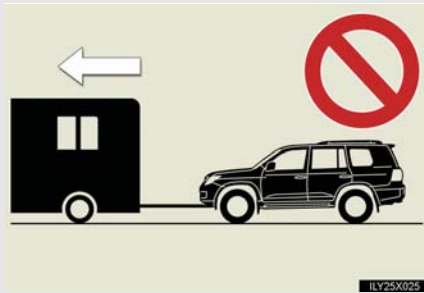
n Do not directly splice trailer lights

Directly splicing trailer lights may damage your vehicle's electrical system and cause a malfunction.

2-5. Driving information

Dinghy towing

Your vehicle is not designed to be dinghy towed (with 4 wheels on the ground) behind a motor home.



NOTICE

- n To avoid serious damage to your vehicle**
Do not tow your vehicle with four wheels on the ground.

2-5. Driving information

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When driving