

Alabama Code - Title 32: MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

Trailer Summary:

Dimensions: Dimensions shall not exceed: a total length of 65 feet; a trailer length of 40 feet; a width of 96 Inches; a height of 13 Feet 6 inches.

Brakes: Requires independent braking system that can support at least 3000 lbs.

Hitch/Signals: Drawbar or connection between vehicles must not exceed 15 feet in length; a red flag, other signal, or cloth not less than 12 inches in length and width must be used.

Lighting/Reflectors:

- Trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or vehicle drawn by another vehicle must be equipped with at least 1 tail lamp on rear that emits red light from a distance of 500 feet and the lamp height must be no more than 60 inches but not less than 20 inches.
- Trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer with a gross weight of 3,000 lbs. or less must have 2 reflectors on the rear with 1 placed on each side.
- If load or trailer obscures stop light view of towing vehicle, stop light must be placed on towed vehicle.

Mirrors: Rearview Mirrors required

Speed Limits: Reasonable and proper

Towing: No more than one loaded trailer towed by any vehicle

Other: It is not permissible to ride in a towed trailer.

State permits exist for house trailers more than 40 feet long or 8 feet wide

Section 32-9A-1

Definitions.

Whenever used in this chapter, unless a different meaning clearly appears in the context, the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

(1) COMMERCE. a. Any trade, traffic, or transportation within the jurisdiction of the United States between a place in a state and a place outside of the state, including a place outside of the United States.

b. For the purpose of this chapter, commerce also includes any trade, traffic, or transportation beginning and ending within the boundaries of this state.

(2) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE. Any self-propelled or towed vehicle used on the highways in commerce to transport passengers or property if the vehicle meets any of the following:

a. It has a gross weight rating or gross combination weight of more than 10,000 pounds, whether operated interstate or intrastate.

b. It is designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, regardless of weight.

c. It is used to transport hazardous materials in a quantity requiring placards under regulation of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

(3) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Public Safety.

(4) DIRECTOR. The Director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

Section 32-9A-2

Compliance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; in-service training by law enforcement officers.

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), no person may operate a commercial motor vehicle in this state, or fail to maintain required records or reports, in violation of the federal motor carrier safety regulations as prescribed by the U.S. Department of Transportation, 49 C.F.R. Part 107, Parts 171-180, Parts 380, 382-387, and Parts 390-399 and as they may be amended in the future. Except as otherwise provided herein, this chapter shall not be construed to repeal or supersede other laws relating to the operation of motor vehicles.

(2)a. No person may operate a commercial motor vehicle in this state in violation of 49 C.F.R. §393.120, as amended, relating to load securement for certain metal coils.

b. No one owning, leasing, or allowing a commercial vehicle to be operated in this state shall knowingly or negligently be in violation of 49 C.F.R. §393.120, as amended, relating to load securement for metal coils.

(3) No person may knowingly or negligently own or lease or cause to be operated on any public highway, road, street, or other public right-of-way a commercial motor vehicle loaded with a metal coil in a manner that fails to comply with 49 C.F.R. §393.120 and thereby allows a metal coil to drop, fall, spill, shift, or otherwise escape from the commercial vehicle onto any public highway, road, street, or any other public right-of-way.

(4)a. No motor carrier may initiate or terminate in this state the commercial transport of metal coils, as defined in 49 C.F.R. §393.120, unless the commercial vehicle operator is certified in proper load securement as provided in 49 C.F.R. §393.120. Certification shall be conducted according to standards published by the Department of Public Safety and certified by the motor carrier and the driver on forms provided by the department.

b. The operator of a commercial motor vehicle involved in the commercial transport of metal coils subject to this subdivision shall be certified in proper load securement as provided in 49 C.F.R. §393.120.

(5) Except as it relates to subdivision (3), no law enforcement officer may make an arrest or issue a citation under this chapter unless he or she has satisfactorily completed, as a part of his or her training, the basic course of instruction developed by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance. Those law enforcement officers authorized to enforce this chapter shall annually receive in service training related to commercial motor vehicle operations, including, but not limited to,

training in current federal motor carrier safety regulations, safety inspection procedures, and out-of-service criteria. The annual training requirements shall be designated and specified by the director. An officer qualified under this section to make an arrest or issue a citation pursuant to subdivision (3) may arrest or issue a citation to the driver of a commercial motor vehicle without a warrant and without witnessing the violation personally if, upon personal investigation, the officer has reasonable cause to believe that a violation has occurred.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or any other provision of law to the contrary:

(1) Amendments to the hours of service regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Transportation at 68 Federal Register 22456, April 28, 2003 and effective June 27, 2003, shall not apply to utility service vehicles as defined at 49 C.F.R. §395.2, not including television cable or community antenna service vehicles, which are owned or operated by utilities regulated by the Public Service Commission or electric cooperatives and which are engaged solely in intrastate commerce in this state until June 27, 2006, provided the amendments are valid and remain in effect as of that date. Hours of service regulations that are applicable in this state immediately prior to June 27, 2003, shall remain applicable to utility service vehicles engaged solely in intrastate commerce in this state until June 27, 2006. If the U.S. Department of Transportation issues an official finding that this provision may result in the loss of federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program funding, the department may promulgate regulations providing for earlier implementation of the amendments to the federal hours of service regulations. If federal law or regulations are amended at any time to exempt utility service vehicles from the hours of service requirements, any exemption shall be effective in this state immediately for the duration of the federal exemption.

(2) The department may promulgate regulations suspending the effective date for up to three years after adoption of any motor carrier safety regulation by the U.S. Department of Transportation as applied to vehicles engaged solely in intrastate commerce in this state, provided that the suspension does not result in the loss of federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program funding.

(3) The department may enter into agreements with state and local emergency management agencies and private parties establishing procedures for complying with 49 U.S.C. §31502(e) and federal regulations promulgated thereto at 49 C.F.R. §390.23 which provide an exemption from the hours of service regulations during certain emergencies.

(4) The department may promulgate regulations granting any waiver, variance, or exemption permitted under 49 U.S.C. §31104(h) and federal regulations promulgated thereto at 49 C.F.R. §§350.339-350.345, provided that the waiver, variance, or exemption does not result in the loss of federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program funding and does not take effect unless approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation if that approval is required.

(5) A commercial motor vehicle operated in intrastate commerce which does not equal or exceed 26,001 pounds, except a motor vehicle, regardless of weight, which is designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver, or which is used in the transportation of hazardous materials and required to be placarded pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 172, Subpart F, shall

be exempt from the federal motor carrier regulations otherwise made applicable in this state pursuant to subsection (a). For purposes of this subdivision, commercial motor vehicle means a commercial motor vehicle as defined in 49 C.F.R. §390.5.

(6) For purposes of those provisions of 49 C.F.R. §395 providing for exemptions from the hours of service requirements of that section respecting the operation of motor vehicles for the transportation of agricultural commodities as contemplated in that section, the planting and harvesting season for this state is defined by the Legislature as the period from April 1 of each calendar year to March 31 of the next succeeding calendar year.

(c) Nothing in this section as amended by Act 2008-336 shall be interpreted to exempt any person from the obligations to operate a motor vehicle in a safe and proper manner or to observe the rules of the road, nor shall any provision of this section as amended by Act 2008-336 be interpreted to immunize any person from civil liability for actionable conduct.

(d) The Department of Public Safety shall publish standards for training drivers of commercial motor vehicles in proper load securement for metal coils as provided in 49 C.F.R. §393.120 and provide for certification of drivers of commercial motor vehicles carrying metal coils.

Section 32-9-1

Trailers.

Trailers, when used in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination may be operated on the national system of interstate and defense highways and other highways upon designation by the Director of Transportation and final approval by the Governor. The Director of Transportation shall, at a minimum, designate those highways necessary to cause the State of Alabama to be in compliance with the Federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982.

Except as provided above, no person shall operate any trailer, as defined in this title, on any highway unless such trailer is operated for the purpose of constructing highways or other facilities of the state or a political subdivision thereof. The Department of Transportation is authorized to regulate the movement of such trailers from one job to another by special permits issued in the same manner as permits are issued under Section 32-9-29. No trailer or semitrailer of any kind shall be used for the hauling of passengers for hire except as provided by Article 2 of this chapter.

The provisions of this article relating to trailers shall not apply to the movement over the highways of trailers manufactured, reconditioned, or repaired in this state when reasonably necessary for the delivery of such trailers to the owners or purchasers thereof outside the state; provided, that such movement shall be subject to special permit to be issued by the Director of the Department of Transportation. Such permits may be issued and may be renewed upon such terms and conditions, in the interest of public safety and the preservation of the highways, as the Director of the Department of Transportation may in his or her discretion require, and he or she may designate the route over which such trailers may be moved and the hours of movement thereof.

Section 32-9-3

Enforcement of chapter.

Any peace officer, including sheriffs and their deputies, constables and their deputies, police officers and marshals of cities or incorporated towns, county police or patrols, state or county license inspectors and their deputies, state troopers and special officers appointed by any agency of the State of Alabama for the enforcement of its laws relating to motor vehicles, now existing or hereafter enacted, shall be authorized, and it is hereby made the duty of each of them to enforce the provisions of this chapter and to make arrests for any violation or violations thereof, without warrant, if the offense is committed in his or her presence, and with warrant if he or she does not observe the commission of the offense. If the arrest is made without warrant, the accused may elect to be immediately taken before the nearest court having jurisdiction, whereupon it shall be the duty of the officer to so take him or her. If the accused elects not to be so taken, then it shall be the duty of the officer to require of the accused a bail bond in a sum not to exceed \$300.00, conditioned that the accused binds himself or herself to appear in the nearest court having jurisdiction at the time fixed in the bond. In case the arrested person fails to appear on the day fixed, the bond shall be forfeited in the manner as is provided for the forfeiture of bonds in other cases. No officer shall be permitted to take a cash bond. The officer making the arrest and taking the bond shall report the same to the court having jurisdiction within 18 hours after taking such bond.

Section 32-9-5

Penalties.

The operation of any truck, semitrailer truck, or trailer in violation of any section of this chapter or of the terms of any permit issued under this chapter, shall constitute a misdemeanor, and the owner thereof, if such violation was with his or her knowledge or consent, and the operator thereof shall, on conviction, be fined not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 and may also be imprisoned or sentenced to hard labor for the county for not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days.

Section 32-9-20 - <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/codeofalabama/1975/32-9-20.htm>

Schedule of restrictions.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or move on any highway in this state any vehicle or vehicles of a size or weight except in accordance with the following:

(1) WIDTH. Vehicles and combinations of vehicles, operating on highways with traffic lanes 12 feet or more in width, shall not exceed a total outside width, including any load thereon, of 102 inches, exclusive of mirrors or other safety devices approved by the Department of Transportation. The Director of Transportation may, in his or her discretion, designate other public highways for use by vehicles and loads with total outside widths not exceeding 102 inches, otherwise; vehicles and combinations of vehicles, operating on highways with traffic lanes less than 12 feet in width, shall not exceed a total outside width, including any load thereon, of 96 inches, exclusive of mirrors or other safety devices approved by the Department of Transportation. No passenger vehicle shall carry any load extending beyond the line of the

fenders. No vehicle hauling forest products or culvert pipe on any highway in this state shall have a load exceeding 102 inches in width

(2) HEIGHT. No vehicle or semitrailer or trailer shall exceed in height 13 1/2 feet, including load.

(3) LENGTH. No vehicle shall exceed in length 40 feet; except, that the length of a truck-semitrailer combination, semitrailers, including load, used in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination, shall not exceed 57 feet; semitrailers and trailers, including load, used in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, shall not exceed 28 1/2 feet each; and motor vehicles designed, used, or maintained primarily as a mobile dwelling, office, or commercial space, commonly called motor homes, shall not exceed 45 feet. Semitrailers exceeding 53 1/2 feet shall only be operated on highways designated pursuant to Section 32-9-1 and shall only be operated when the distance between the kingpin of the semitrailer and the rearmost axle or a point midway between the two rear axles, if the two rear axles are tandem axles, does not exceed 41 feet and if the semitrailer is equipped with a rear underride guard of a substantial construction consisting of a continuous lateral beam extending to within four inches of the lateral extremities of the semitrailer and located not more than 22 inches from the surface as measured with the semitrailers empty and on a level surface. For purposes of enforcement of this subdivision, lengths of semitrailers and trailers refer to the cargo carrying portion of the unit. Truck tractor units used exclusively in combinations transporting motor vehicles may directly carry a portion of the cargo, provided that the combinations are restricted to truck tractor-semitrailer combinations only and provided further that the overall length of these particular combinations shall not exceed 65 feet; except that the overall length of stinger-steered type units shall not exceed 80 feet. No truck tractor-semitrailer combination used exclusively for transporting motor vehicles shall carry any load extending more than four feet beyond the front or six feet beyond the rear of the combination. No other vehicle operated on a highway shall carry any load extending more than a total of five feet beyond both the front and rear, inclusive, of the vehicle.

(4) WEIGHT.

a. The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any one axle of a vehicle shall not exceed 20,000 pounds, or such other weight, if any, as may be permitted by federal law to keep the state from losing federal funds; provided, that inadequate bridges shall be posted to define load limits.

b. For the purpose of this section, an axle load shall be defined as the total load transmitted to the road by all wheels whose centers are included between two parallel transverse vertical planes 40 inches apart, extending across the full width of the vehicle.

c. Subject to the limit upon the weight imposed upon the highway through any one axle as set forth herein, the total weight with load imposed upon the highway by all the axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the gross weight given for the respective distances between the first and last axle of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, measured longitudinally to the nearest foot as set forth in the following table:

COMPUTED GROSS WEIGHT TABLE

For various spacings of axle groupings

Distance in feet between first and last axles of vehicle or combination of vehicles

Maximum load in pounds on all the axles

	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
8 or less	36,000	42,000	42,000		
9	38,000	42,500	42,500		
10	40,000	43,500	43,500		
11		44,000	44,000		
12		45,000	50,000	50,000	
13		45,500	50,500	50,500	
14		46,500	51,500	51,500	
15		47,000	52,000	52,000	
16		48,000	52,500	58,000	58,000
17		48,500	53,500	58,500	58,500
18		49,500	54,000	59,000	59,000
19		50,000	54,500	60,000	60,000
20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
24		54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
26		56,000	59,500	64,000	69,500
27		57,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
28		59,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
29		60,000	61,500	66,000	71,500

30	62,000	66,500	72,000
31	63,500	67,000	72,500
32	64,500	68,000	73,500
33	65,000	69,000	74,000
34	65,500	70,000	74,500
35	66,500	71,000	75,000
36	67,000	72,000	76,000
37	68,000	73,000	77,000
38	69,000	74,000	78,000
39	70,000	75,000	79,000
40	71,000	76,000	80,000
41	72,000	77,000	81,000
42	73,000	78,000	82,000
43	74,000	79,000	83,000
44 and over	75,000	80,000	84,000

Except as provided by special permits, no vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeding the gross weights specified above shall be permitted to travel on the public highways within the State of Alabama.

No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be permitted to operate on any portion of the Interstate Highway System of Alabama that shall have a greater weight than 20,000 pounds carried on any one axle, including all enforcement tolerances, or with a tandem axle weight in excess of 34,000 pounds, including all enforcement tolerances, or with an overall gross weight on a group of two or more consecutive axles produced by application of the following formula:

$$W=500 LN + 12N + 36$$

$$N-1$$

where W = overall gross weight on any group of two or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, L = distance in feet between the extreme of any group of two or more consecutive axles, and N = number of axles in group under consideration; except, that two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of 34,000 pounds each, provided the overall distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more;

provided, that the overall gross weight may not exceed 80,000 pounds, including all enforcement tolerances. Nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting size or weight limits on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in this state in excess of those permitted under 23 U.S.C. Section 127. If the federal government prescribes or adopts vehicle size or weight limits greater than or less than those now prescribed by 23 U.S.C. Section 127 for the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, the increased or decreased limits shall become effective on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in this state. Nothing in this section shall be construed to deny the operation of any vehicle or combination of vehicles that could be lawfully operated upon the highways and roads of this state on January 4, 1975.

d. For purposes of enforcement of this subdivision, all weights less than or equal to the sum of the weight otherwise prescribed by this subdivision, plus an additional weight to be calculated by multiplying the weight prescribed by this subdivision by one-tenth (.10) that shall represent a scale or enforcement tolerance, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of this section, and shall not constitute violations thereof. No evidence shall be admitted into evidence or considered by the trier of fact in any civil action unless the evidence proffered would tend to prove that the weight of the vehicle exceeded the amount provided in this subsection. Nothing in this paragraph d. shall restrict or affect the right of any defendant to place in evidence such evidence tending to prove the defendant was in compliance with this section.

e. Dump trucks, dump trailers, concrete mixing trucks, fuel oil, gasoline trucks, and trucks designated and constructed for special type work or use shall not be made to conform to the axle spacing requirements of paragraph (4)c of this section; provided, that the vehicle shall be limited to a weight of 20,000 pounds per axle plus scale tolerances; and, provided further, that the maximum gross weight of the vehicles shall not exceed the maximum weight allowed by this section for the appropriate number of axles, irrespective of the distance between axles, plus allowable scale tolerances. All axles shall be brake equipped. Trucks delivering asphalt plant mix which do not exceed the maximum allowable gross weight and operate within 50 miles of their home base shall not be required to conform to the requirements of paragraph (4)a of this section. Concrete mixing trucks which operate within 50 miles of their home base and do not exceed the maximum allowable gross weight shall not be required to conform to the requirements of paragraph (4)a of this section. It shall be a violation if the vehicles named under this subdivision travel upon bridges designated and posted by the Transportation Director as incapable of carrying the load.

f. If the driver of any vehicle can comply with the weight requirements of this section by shifting or equalizing the load on all wheels or axles and does so when requested by the proper authority, the driver shall not be held to be operating in violation of this section.

g. When portable scales are used in the enforcement of this section, the axles of any vehicle described or commonly referred to as tandem or triaxle rigs or units (that is, vehicles having two or more axles in addition to a steering axle), the group of tandem or triaxles shall be weighed simultaneously, and the total weight so derived shall be divided by the number of axles weighed in the group to arrive at the per axle weight, except that if any one axle in the group exceeds 20,000 pounds in weight, it shall not exceed the weight of any other axle in the group by more

than 50 percent. When portable scales are used to determine the weight of a vehicle pursuant to this section, the operator of the vehicle will be permitted to move the vehicle to the nearest platform scales certified by the Department of Agriculture and Industries and operated by a bonded operator within a distance of 10 highway miles, accompanied by an enforcement officer to verify the accuracy of the portable scales used in determining the vehicle weight. If the weight of the vehicle is shown by the platform scales to be within the legal limits of this section, the operator of the vehicle shall not be held to be in violation of this section.

h. The governing body of a county, by appropriate resolution, may authorize limitations less than those prescribed herein for vehicles operated upon the county highways of the county.

i. The Department of Transportation may post or limit any road or bridge to weights less than those prescribed by this section. It is the legislative intent and purpose that this section be rigidly enforced by the Department of Transportation, the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency and any other authorized law enforcement officers of the state, any county, or city and incorporated towns.

j. Two and three axle vehicles being used exclusively for the purpose of transporting agricultural commodities or products to and from a farm and for agricultural purposes relating to the operation and maintenance of a farm by any farmer, custom harvester or husbandman may not be made to conform to the axle requirements of paragraph (4)a of this section or the gross weight requirements of paragraph (4)c of this section.

(b)(1) Any vehicle utilizing an auxiliary power or idle reduction technology unit in order to promote reduction of fuel use and emissions because of engine idling shall be allowed an additional 400 pounds total to the gross, axle, tandem, or bridge formula weight limits defined in this section.

(2) To be eligible for the exception provided in this subsection, the operator of the vehicle must provide written proof or certification of the weight of the auxiliary power unit (APU) and demonstrate or certify the idle reduction technology is fully functional at all times.

(3) Written proof or certification of the weight of the APU must be available to law enforcement officers if the vehicle is found in violation of applicable weight laws. The weight allowed cannot exceed 400 pounds or the actual weight proven or certified, whichever is less.

(4) It is the intent of this subsection to apply at the state highway level the weight limit increase for vehicles using a functioning auxiliary power or idle reduction technology as provided in the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005.

(c)(1) Any motor vehicle, if operated by an engine fueled primarily by natural gas, may exceed any vehicle weight limit, up to a maximum gross vehicle weight of 82,000 pounds, under this section by an amount that is equal to the difference between:

- a. The weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system carried by that vehicle; and
- b. The weight of a comparable diesel tank and fueling system.

(2) This subsection applies on federal interstate highways to the weight limit increases for vehicles using an EPA certified natural gas engine or an EPA approved conversion unit installed on the vehicle which allows the vehicle to operate primarily on compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas.

Section 32-9-20.1

Appurtenance exceeding maximum prescribed width.

Notwithstanding the provisions of **Section 32-9-20**, an appurtenance attached to a motor home, travel trailer, self-propelled camper or house car, truck camper, or recreational vehicle commonly known as an R.V. may exceed the maximum prescribed width provided in **Section 32-9-20** if the appurtenance does not extend six inches beyond the sidewall of the vehicle. For the purpose of this **section**, an appurtenance is a part which is an integral part of the vehicle including, but not limited to, awnings, grab handles, lighting equipment, cameras, and vents. An appurtenance may not be used as a load-carrying device.

Section 32-9-31

Measuring and weighing vehicles.

Any officer enumerated in Section 32-9-3 having reason to believe that the height, length, width, or weight of any truck, semitrailer truck, or trailer is in excess of the maximum limits prescribed by Section 32-9-20 or permitted by any permit issued under authority of Section 32-9-29 is authorized to measure or weigh the same, either by means of portable or stationary scales, and may require such vehicle to be driven to the nearest stationary scales, in the event such scales are within a distance of five miles. All scales used for the weighing of vehicles as provided in this section shall be approved by the weights and measures division of the Department of Agriculture and Industries. The officer shall require the operator of the truck, semitrailer truck, or trailer to unload such portion of load as may be necessary to decrease the gross weight of such vehicle to the maximum gross weight permitted by this title or by the terms of any permit in the possession of such operator and issued under the provisions of Section 32-9-29 (which excess load, when unloaded, shall be at the sole risk of the owner) or, at the election of the operator, the officer shall permit the operator to move such vehicle and its load to the nearest incorporated town or the nearest court having jurisdiction, at which place the excess load shall be unloaded. The refusal of any such operator to permit his or her truck, semitrailer truck, or trailer to be measured or weighed, or to proceed to a stationary scales or to unload the excess load shall constitute a violation of this chapter.

Section 32-5-242

Requirements as to head lamps and auxiliary driving lamps

(1) Reflectors, when required by subsection (d) of Section 32-5-240 shall be mounted at a height not less than 24 inches and not higher than 60 inches above the ground on which the vehicle stands; except, that if the highest part of the permanent structure of the vehicle is less than 24 inches the reflector at such point shall be mounted as high as that part of the permanent structure will permit.

The rear reflectors on a pole trailer may be mounted on each side of the bolster or load. Any required red reflector on the rear of a vehicle may be incorporated with the tail lamp, but such reflector shall meet all the other reflector requirements of this chapter.

(2) Clearance lamps shall be mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle in such a manner as to indicate its extreme width and as near the top thereof as practicable. Clearance lamps and side marker lamps may be mounted in combination provided illumination is given as required herein with reference to both.

(i) Visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps and marker lamps.

(1) Every reflector upon any vehicle referred to in subsection (d) of Section 32-5-240 shall be of such size and characteristics and so maintained as to be readily visible at nighttime from all distances within 500 feet to 50 feet from the vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps. Reflectors required to be mounted on the sides of the vehicle shall reflect the required color of light to the sides, and those mounted on the rear shall reflect a red color to the rear.

(2) Front and rear clearance lamps shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at a distance of 500 feet from the front and rear, respectively, of the vehicle.

(3) Side marker lamps shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at a distance of 500 feet from the side of the vehicle on which mounted.