

# Vehicle and Cargo Length / Width / Height Limits – Oregon Revised Statutes

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## SIZE

**818.080 Maximum size limits.** This section establishes maximum size limits for purposes of ORS 818.090. Except where an exemption under ORS 818.100 specifically provides otherwise, any vehicle or load thereon that exceeds a maximum allowable size as determined by any of the following tables exceeds the maximum size limits for purposes of ORS 818.090:

(1) A vehicle or combination of vehicles, as appropriate, exceeds the maximum allowable size if a dimension of the vehicle, combination of vehicles or load thereon is beyond an applicable maximum size allowable on the following table:

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\*See Table on next page

TABLE I

Dimension limited:	Limit applicable to:	Maximum allowable size, in feet, for dimension limited:
(1) Total outside width	Any vehicle	8 1/2
(2) Height, including load	Any vehicle	14
(3) Length	Any vehicle operating singly	40
	Vehicle in combination of vehicles	40
	Combination of vehicles, including load	60
	Combination of vehicles that includes a stinger-steered pole trailer	65
(4) Length of load on vehicle	Any vehicle operating singly or as a unit in a combination of vehicles	40

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The maximum limit on height under the table in this subsection does not relieve the owner or driver of any vehicle or combination of vehicles from the exercise of due care in determining that sufficient vertical clearance is provided upon the highways and streets where the vehicle or combination of vehicles is being operated.

(2) A vehicle or combination of vehicles, as appropriate, exceeds the maximum allowable size if a portion of the vehicle, combination of vehicles or load thereon is subject to a limitation

under the following table and that portion extends farther than the maximum limit of allowable extension beyond a designated point as determined by the following table:

TABLE II

Designated point:	Limit applicable to:	Maximum limit of allowable extension beyond designated point:
(1) Line of left fenders of vehicle	Load on any passenger vehicle	No allowable extension beyond designated point.
(2) Line of right fenders of vehicle	Load on any passenger vehicle	6 inches
(3) Front of vehicle	Load on any vehicle or combination of vehicles	4 feet

(4) Last axle of vehicle operating singly	Any portion of vehicle or any load thereon	Three-fourths the length of the wheelbase of the vehicle.
(5) Last axle of combination of vehicles	Any portion of combination of vehicles or any load thereon	One-third of the length of the wheelbase of the combination of vehicles.

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[1983 c.338 §515; 1985 c.16 §265; 1995 c.488 §2; 2001 c.574 §3]

**818.090 Violation of maximum size limits; civil liability; penalties.** (1) A person commits the offense of violation of maximum size limits if the person does any of the following:

(a) Drives or moves on a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceeds the size limits established under ORS 818.080.

(b) Owns a vehicle or combination of vehicles and causes or permits the vehicle or combination of vehicles to be driven or moved on a highway when the vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeds the size limits established under ORS 818.080. Operation of any vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of this section is prima facie evidence that the owner of the vehicle or combination caused or permitted the vehicle or combination to be so operated and the owner shall be liable for any penalties imposed under subsection (4) of this section as a result of the operation.

(2) The application of this section is subject to the exemptions from this section established under ORS 818.100.

(3) Violation of the offense described in this section is subject to civil liability under ORS 818.410.

(4) The offense described in this section, violation of maximum size limits, is punishable according to the schedule of penalties established in ORS 818.420. [1983 c.338 §514]

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For example, if you want to transport a canoe and are considering using an extender from the tow hitch, consider the following example:

Your overhang on the back of the vehicle cannot extend more than 3/4 of the length of the wheelbase of your pickup truck bed, regardless of the extender (there is nothing in Oregon law that exempts length limits based on an extender).

You would need to measure first your wheelbase and then multiply by .75. You cannot exceed that length measuring from the last axle of your truck.

Example: wheelbase is 12 feet, you cannot extend more than 9 feet past the last axle of the pickup.

You can find the law at Oregon Revised Statute 818.080 in section (2) at

[ORS Chapter 818 - Vehicle Limit](#)

Your other option is to trailer the canoe.

Anytime your load length exceeds 4 feet from the end of the pickup bed you need a 1 ft. square red flag or lights. See below:

**815.275 Failure to mark end of load with light or flag when required; penalty.** (1) A person commits the offense of failure to mark the end of a load with a light or flag when required if the person drives or moves on any highway or owns and causes or knowingly permits to be driven or moved on any highway any vehicle with a load that extends to the rear four feet or more beyond the bed or body of the vehicle and the person fails to:

(a) Place end load lights described under ORS 816.290 at the extreme rear end of the load, in addition to any other rear light required upon every vehicle, at times when limited visibility conditions exist; or

(b) At any other time, display at the extreme rear end of the load a red flag or cloth not less than 12 inches square.

(2) The offense described in this section, failure to mark end of load with light or flag when required, is a Class C traffic violation.