

LET'S TALK ABOUT CARAVAN WEIGHTS AND TOW VEHICLE WEIGHTS

To understand what all this talk about caravan weights and tow vehicle weights are all about. Here are some steps you can take to carry out the practical exercise that will answer your vehicle and caravan weights to see if you are within both manufacturers limits. Or is it time to do some culling.

Take your vehicle and van over a weighbridge loaded with what you normally go to a rally with, weigh both individually.
This weight is known as GVM : Gross Vehicle Mass for tow vehicle
and ATM : Aggregate Trailer Mass for your van.

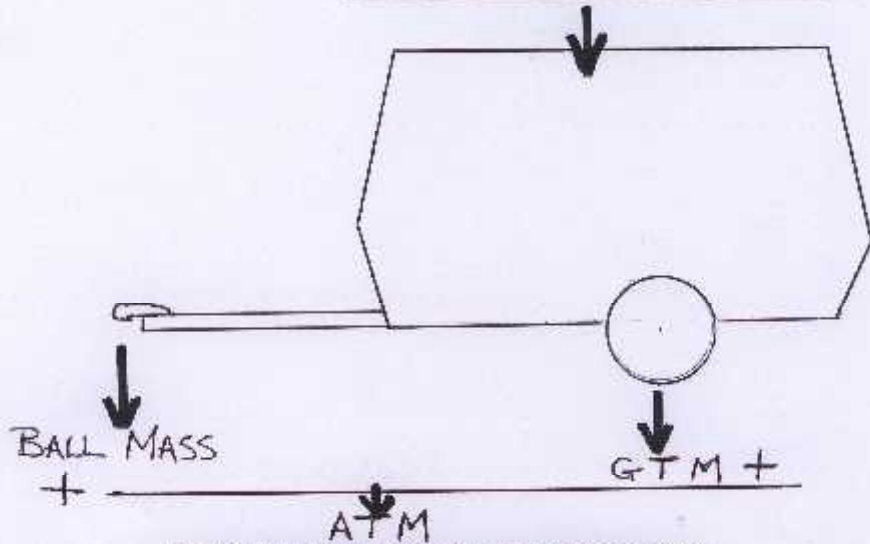
Now add the Towball weight to the GVM weight shown on your weighbridge ticket, then subtract this number from the vehicle manufacturers specified GVM. How did you go? Have you got a positive or negative number?

With the caravan, add the towball weight to the weighbridge ticket weight. Now subtract this number from the ATM shown on your caravan compliance plate. Have you got a positive or negative number?

Now add both new GVM and ATM together and that adds up to what we all know as GOING CARAVANNING.

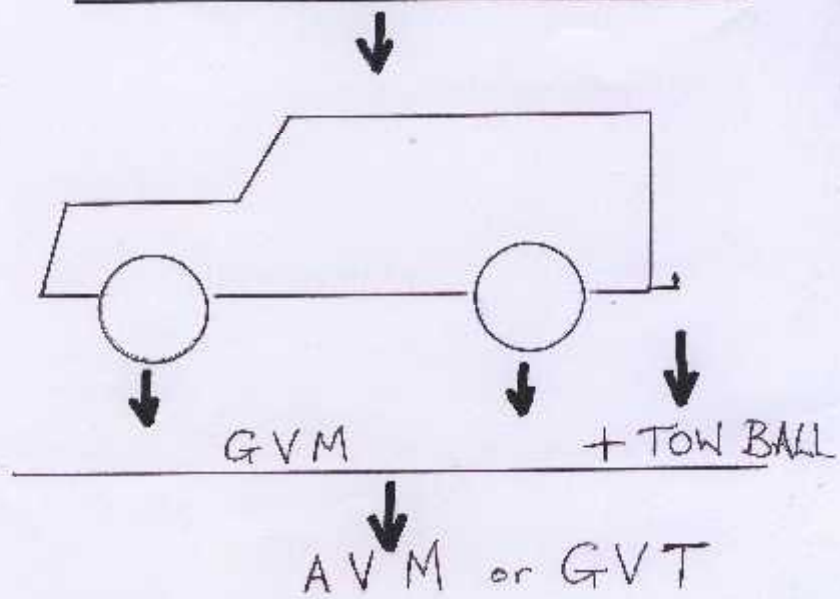
CARAVAN WEIGHT DEFINITIONS

TARE MASS + PAYLOAD



TOW VEHICLE WEIGHT DEFINITIONS

TARE MASS + PAYLOAD



MY EXAMPLE
OF
WEIGHTS

OUR 18'6" IMPERIAL VAN

TARE MASS 1440 Kg

GROSS TRAILER MASS 1810 Kg

AGGREGATE TRAILER MASS 1970 Kg

BALL WEIGHT 216 Kg

200 Series LANDCRUISER

SPECIFIED TARE WEIGHT 2650 Kg

MAXIMUM TOWING WEIGHT 3500Kg

SPECIFIED GROSS VEHICLE TARE 3300 Kg

MAXIMUM BALL WEIGHT 350 Kg