

Hazmat Pre-Trip Inspection Checklist

Companion to HazMat Driver Training (Add-On 2, Highway Mode)

49 CFR §177.816 · §392.7 · §393.95 · §396.11 · §396.13

When to use this. Before every hazmat trip, in addition to your standard FMCSA pre-trip and DVIR check. This checklist surfaces only the hazmat-specific items. Walk it after the standard pre-trip; sign and keep with the day's paperwork.

Section A. Driver & ** vehicle **

Driver name

CDL # and endorsements (verify
HME active)

Tractor unit #

Trailer / cargo-tank unit #

Date and start time

Section B. Credentials in cab

✓	Item, confirm present and current
☐	CDL with valid hazmat endorsement (HME)
☐	TSA Security Threat Assessment status (current; HME proves it)
☐	Medical Examiner's Certificate (DOT physical, valid)
☐	ELDT certificate (if first-time HME within last 3 years)
☐	Hazmat training certificates, Core Bundle + §177.816 (within 3 years)
☐	Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse status, driver registered, queries current

Section C. Shipping papers (§172 Subpart C)

✓	Item
☐	Shipping papers received from shipper; one copy in cab, one with carrier
☐	Five-element basic description present and

✓	Item
	legible (§172.202): ID #, proper shipping name, class/division, packing group, quantity
☐	Shipper's certification statement signed (§172.204)
☐	Emergency response info attached or referenced (§172 Subpart G)
☐	24-hour emergency contact number with PIN on shipping paper (§172.604)
☐	Shipping papers placed within driver's reach while driving, or in door pouch when out of cab (§177.817)
☐	Tab marker or color-coded sleeve makes them findable in seconds during an incident

Section D. Placards and markings (§172 Subpart F)

✓	Item
☐	Correct placards on all four sides, front of tractor, both sides of trailer, rear of trailer
☐	Placards match the shipping papers, class, division, ID number where required
☐	Placards undamaged, legible, and securely mounted at least 3 inches from other markings (§172.516)
☐	Subsidiary-hazard placards present where required (§172.505)
☐	UN/NA ID number displayed where required (orange panel, white square-on-point, or on placard)
☐	Marine pollutant marking present if applicable (Appendix B to §172.101)
☐	Elevated-temperature material marking 'HOT' present if applicable
☐	DANGEROUS placard analyzed correctly if mixed load (§172.504(b))

Section E. Emergency equipment (§393.95)

✓	Item
☐	Fire extinguisher present, charged, sealed,

✓	Item
	and rated 5BC minimum (10BC if placarded except for 1.4S explosives)
☐	Spare fuses present (if not equipped with circuit breakers)
☐	Three reflective triangles OR three warning flares (12 each) OR three liquid-burning flares (1 hour each)
☐	2024 Emergency Response Guidebook in cab and accessible to the driver
☐	Spill cleanup material appropriate for the cargo (if carrier requires)
☐	First-aid kit (carrier policy / state requirements)
☐	Mobile phone charged with emergency numbers programmed (CHEMTREC, NRC, dispatch, DER)

Section F. Cargo security

✓	Item
☐	Cargo properly blocked, braced, and secured per §177.834 and §392.9
☐	Segregation requirements observed per §177.848 (review the segregation table)
☐	Cargo-compartment seal numbers verified against shipping papers and intact
☐	Cargo-tank: dome covers / manholes secured and verified per company procedure
☐	Cargo-tank: bonding / grounding equipment present and inspected (§177.837)
☐	No cargo in cab or attached to tractor unless permitted (§177.834(h))

Section G. DVIR (§396.11) and pre-trip findings

Defects noted (or 'no defects'): Action taken:

Section H. Driver certification

I certify that I have personally inspected the items above before commencing this hazmat trip. I have verified shipping papers against placards. I will keep this checklist with the day's paperwork. I will not depart with any item left unchecked.

Driver signature

Date / time completed

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