ESSENTIAL TOWING CHECKS

- The trailer should be parallel to the ground when loaded.
- When calculating the laden weight of the trailer, remember to include the weight of the trailer, plus the weight of the load.
- If the load can be divided between the vehicle and trailer, loading more weight into the vehicle will generally improve stability. Do not exceed the vehicle's weight limits. See **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS** (page 270).
- Ensure that all applicable regulations and legislation are complied with when loading and towing a trailer.
- Increase rear tyre pressures of the towing vehicle to those for maximum vehicle loading conditions. See **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS** (page 270).
- Ensure trailer tyre pressures are set to trailer manufacturer's recommendations.
- If the vehicle is loaded to maximum Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) the nose weight is limited to 150 kg (330 lbs).
- If it is necessary to increase the nose weight, up to a maximum of 250 kg (550 lbs) the vehicle load should be reduced accordingly. This ensures that the GVW, and maximum rear axle load are not exceeded.
- Ensure that a suitable breakaway cable or secondary coupling is used. Refer to the trailer manufacturer's instructions for guidance.
- Ensure that the tow ball is secure.
- Check the operation of all trailer lights.

WARNING



Do not loop the breakaway cable over the tow ball as it may slide off.

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- **Tyre pressures** - Increase rear pressures of towing vehicle to those for Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight conditions.
- **Nose weight** - Must be a minimum of 7% of gross caravan/trailer weight, up to a maximum of 350 kg (722 lb).
- **Hitch height** - Must be set with the engine running, so that the caravan/trailer is level when connected to the vehicle.

GEAR CHANGING

To avoid overheating the gearbox, and the clutch in manual gearbox vehicles, it is not advisable to tow heavy trailer loads at speeds of less than 32 km/h (21 mph) using the main gearbox in high range. Select low range instead.