If you must use a GPS unit in-truck, use only one geared for commercial motor vehicles (CMVs).

Published: 4/29/2019



Have you ever had a CMVspecific GPS unit route you incorrectly? Which brand? What happened?

Published: 4/30/2019



Learn how to read a trucker's atlas. Learn what the symbols in the front of the book mean.

Published: 5/1/2019



Ever encountered a toll that wasn't marked on the most recent issue of a truckers' atlas?

Published: 5/2/2019



Motor carriers atlases include truck route markings and list all permanent low clearances.

Published: 5/3/2019



When you're getting ready to make a right turn in a truck, remember the length of your trailer.

Published: 5/6/2019



Ever seen a trucker run a trailer into a ditch while making a right turn? What happened?

Published: 5/7/2019



Negotiating a right turn includes swinging the tractor far enough out to clear every fixed object.

Published: 5/8/2019



What items are hit most often by truckers failing to properly negotiate a right turn?

Published: 5/9/2019



When turning right, remember to clear low profile items like fire hydrants and concrete barriers.

Published: 5/10/2019



Idling occurs when a vehicle's engine is running but the vehicle is not in motion. Restrictions vary.

Published: 5/13/2019



Ever idled your truck in a 'no idle zone' with or without 'clean idle' certification?
What happened?

Published: 5/14/2019



Bottom line-focused truckers seek to minimize idling so that fuel economy is as high as possible.

Published: 5/15/2019



For what reason(s) have you idled your truck?
How do you keep truck diesel from freezing?

Published: 5/16/2019



If you idle your truck for comfort, consider using proven, alternative climate control options.

Published: 5/17/2019



If you can't shower every day on the road, you can 'freshen up' with baby wipes between showers.

Published: 5/20/2019



Ever use homemade baby wipes in-truck?
Did they work well for you?
What was your recipe?

Published: 5/21/2019



With the right grooming tools, many men and women can give themselves a haircut and save money.

Published: 5/22/2019



Do you prefer that someone else cuts your hair instead of you cutting it yourself? Why or why not?

Published: 5/23/2019



A good set of grooming tools may cost a bit up-front.

Maintain them and they can last for years.

Published: 5/24/2019



When slowing or stopping your truck, apply even and firm pressure on the brake pedal.

Published: 5/27/2019



Have you ever found it necessary to do a 'hard brake'?
What happened?
Was it avoidable?

Published: 5/28/2019



When someone cuts you off, you may have only milliseconds to 'hard brake' to avoid a fatality.

Published: 5/29/2019



How often do you use an engine brake (aka 'Jake brake') to slow or stop your truck?

Published: 5/30/2019



Anti-lock braking systems prevent wheel lock-up during braking, preventing several bad outcomes.

Published: 5/31/2019



Many employee benefits are not available to new hires until their probationary period is over.

Published: 6/3/2019



Ever experienced a benefit need during a new-hire probationary period? What happened?

Published: 6/4/2019



When paying for benefits weekly, remember that payment continues even when you're on vacation.

Published: 6/5/2019



Ever enrolled to receive company-offered benefits that didn't meet your needs? What happened?

Published: 6/6/2019



You may be able to find better benefits outside your company. One example is health insurance.

Published: 6/7/2019



Familiarize yourself with lubricants your truck may need: fifth wheel grease, motor oil, etc.

Published: 6/10/2019



Have you ever needed a spray-on lubricant to help loosen something?
Which one works best?

Published: 6/11/2019



Fifth wheel platforms need to be re-greased from time to time. If needed, have this scheduled.

Published: 6/12/2019



For trucks using motor oil, what kind do you prefer to use?
What is your oil drain

Published: 6/13/2019

interval?



Motor oils and oil drain intervals vary. Find and use an oil that works well for you and your truck.

Published: 6/14/2019



Keeping your hands clean as a trucker can be a challenge. Using baby wipes may help temporarily.

Published: 6/17/2019



Do you keep a container of baby wipes in your truck? For what cleaning jobs do you use them?

Published: 6/18/2019



If your hands are super dirty, you may need to use a hand soap with pumice to clean them.

Published: 6/19/2019



Ever needed a hand cleaner that goes beyond soap? If so, which one? How well did it work?

Published: 6/20/2019



Before you buy hand cleaner, remember that every chemical applied to your skin will affect your body.

Published: 6/21/2019



If you have at least some food in-truck, eating restaurant meals can be pleasurable instead of forced.

Published: 6/24/2019



Have you figured out how to get the most nutrition for the least amount of money when eating out?

Published: 6/25/2019



Restaurants usually charge less for lunch than dinner.

Observe the cut-off time from one to the other.

Published: 6/26/2019



Ever researched the mark-up on paid drinks served in a restaurant?
Isn't water always free?

Published: 6/27/2019



Consider the price of the meal, tax and tip, before going to a restaurant. Evaluate your priorities.

Published: 6/28/2019



Choose truck parking spots wisely. Trucks parked on row ends are easier to strike and damage.

Published: 7/1/2019



Have you ever had your truck hit while it was parked in a truck stop?
What happened?

Published: 7/2/2019



Apply your truck's brakes when you park your truck. Don't risk getting run over by your own truck.

Published: 7/3/2019



Ever apply only the tractor brake in winter and your rig started to slide? What happened?

Published: 7/4/2019



If your truck's brakes freeze to the drums in winter, call your company for advice on freeing them.

Published: 7/5/2019



There are many ways for truckers to be distracted. Reduce and eliminate as many as you can.

Published: 7/8/2019



Besides handling your truck's steering wheel and gear shift, where do your hands go while driving?

Published: 7/9/2019



Eating, drinking, smoking, and setting entertainment while driving are all forms of distraction.

Published: 7/10/2019



Have you ever found yourself not remembering driving a certain stretch of road?
What happened?

Published: 7/11/2019



Be actively engaged in observing your surroundings as you drive so that you aren't distracted.

Published: 7/12/2019



Trucks use Direct Current.

Homes use Alternate Current.

Inverters invert power from

DC to AC.

Published: 7/15/2019



How many times have you invested in a DC-powered appliance and wished it was AC-powered?

Published: 7/16/2019



Many items can be operated via an appropriately powered inverter, including cooking appliances.

Published: 7/17/2019



What's the highest wattage of any appliance you've ever operated in your truck? What did it do?

Published: 7/18/2019



Beware of overloading your inverter by operating too many appliances at the same time.

Published: 7/19/2019



Truckers in the USA must not use hand-held phones while driving their trucks. Fines are stiff.

Published: 7/22/2019



How do you handle incoming phone calls while you're driving your truck?
Do you use an app?

Published: 7/23/2019



Smartphone apps range from lists and forms to search tools and ways of recording information.

Published: 7/24/2019



Trucker, what's your favorite Smartphone app, what does it do, and why do you use it?

Published: 7/25/2019



When driving a CMV, never use your phone's GPS routing unless it is specifically geared for CMVs.

Published: 7/26/2019



Different floor cleaning devices and appliances may be needed for your truck based upon the surfaces.

Published: 7/29/2019



Is your tractor's floor covered with carpet, vinyl, or other?
Is it smooth, textured, or combo?

Published: 7/30/2019



Smooth vinyl flooring can be cleaned via whisk broom. Carpet and textured flooring needs vacuuming.

Published: 7/31/2019



Ever use a 12-volt powered vacuum cleaner in your truck? What happened? How well did it work?

Published: 8/1/2019



Operate a vacuum in-truck via appropriately sized power source in or from outside your truck.

Published: 8/2/2019



For your own protection, when you receive a dispatch, write down everything in a physical notebook.

Published: 8/5/2019



Ever received a dispatch with wrong information or a wrong number it it?
What happened?

Published: 8/6/2019



Handle and store bills of lading carefully and consistently. They must be signed by the receiver.

Published: 8/7/2019



Have you ever taken photographs of your dispatch info or bills?
How have you ever used them?

Published: 8/8/2019



Photos of your dispatch screen may come in handy if there is ever a dispute about picking up a load.

Published: 8/9/2019



Before backing up your big truck, be sure the path is clear of all objects and people.

Published: 8/12/2019



What tips can you share to help truckers back into docks set at a 45-degree angle?

Published: 8/13/2019



Be careful backing into parking spots around other big trucks. If necessary, get out and look.

Published: 8/14/2019



Do you honk your horn before backing up your truck? What are the pros and cons of doing this?

Published: 8/15/2019



Remember: your tandem setting affects the swing of the rear of your trailer when you back up.

Published: 8/16/2019



Pull your truck through fuel islands straight instead of at an angle so that you don't hit anything.

Published: 8/19/2019



Have you ever waited behind other trucks in order to get fuel? Has everyone been courteous?

Published: 8/20/2019



Wait your turn for fuel at truck stops and remember that others may be waiting behind you.

Published: 8/21/2019



Do you use cardless RFID technology to 'pay' for fuel? How much time does it save you?

Published: 8/22/2019



A rubber tie-down stretched over a fuel nozzle can keep it from popping out of the tank while fueling.

Published: 8/23/2019



Ensure your perishable food storage device can keep the contents at or below the recommended temperature.

Published: 8/26/2019



Ever used a thermoelectric cooler for cooling and it got too hot?
How did you handle that?

Published: 8/27/2019



Some in-truck refrigerators may drain down a truck's batteries. Pay attention to your cranking power.

Published: 8/28/2019



Ever used ice to keep cold foods cold in-truck?
What was your lowest-cost ice source?

Published: 8/29/2019



Making ice in-truck can save ice chest users a lot of money.
Weigh ice maker pros and cons.

Published: 8/30/2019



CMV low clearance info is not programmed on passenger vehicle GPS units or regular cell phone maps.

Published: 9/2/2019



How many low clearance truck accidents have been due to truckers using cell phone GPS routing?

Published: 9/3/2019



When truckers encounter a posted low clearance sign, they must immediately find an alternate route.

Published: 9/4/2019



Ever known of a CMV-specific GPS unit to route a trucker to a low clearance?
Will you please share?

Published: 9/5/2019



New motor carriers or truckers atlas books always have the most up-to-date low clearance information.

Published: 9/6/2019



A budget is a spending guide and should be embraced to help you manage your finances.

Published: 9/9/2019



Ever tracked all of your spending for 30 consecutive days? What did you learn about yourself?

Published: 9/10/2019



A Spending Diary helps users track spending for 30 consecutive days. It's one of our free downloads.

Published: 9/11/2019



Do you practice balancing your checkbook to the penny every month?
Why or why not?

Published: 9/12/2019



Budgeting is much like knowing where you've been, where you are, where you're going, and how to get there.

Published: 9/13/2019



Cooking devices that can be used in-truck are capped by the power you can provide to them.

Published: 9/16/2019



Have you ever attempted to run a cooking appliance that took too much power?
What happened?

Published: 9/17/2019



If you plan to use a crock pot while you drive, make sure to brace it against spills during transit.

Published: 9/18/2019



Which cooking devices have you found are the easiest to use and clean up after intruck?

Published: 9/19/2019



Microwave oven use depletes the nutritional value of food and can produce toxic chemicals.

Published: 9/20/2019



Many truckers choose to be 'homeless' and live out of their trucks. There are pros and cons to this.

Published: 9/23/2019



Ever been a 'homeless' trucker? Please share: What was the hardest thing for you to give up?

Published: 9/24/2019



Things that were once available only at home are now used by 'homeless' truckers, like phone service.

Published: 9/25/2019



If you're a 'homeless' trucker, have you ever taken someone with you on the road?

If so, who?

Published: 9/26/2019



Whether homeless or not, some truckers have a passenger riding along. Have authorization in place first.

Published: 9/27/2019



Carefully record all detention time you spend in docks and report it to your company. Seek compensation.

Published: 9/30/2019



Which, if any, on-board device(s) do you use to track detention time you spend in docks?

Published: 10/1/2019



Trucking companies need to include in their contracts payment for truckers' time spent in docks.

Published: 10/2/2019



Are you expected to receive no pay for any part of your detention?
What have you said about that?

Published: 10/3/2019



Every minute of a trucker's on-duty time should be paid, including time spent waiting in docks.

Published: 10/4/2019



Truckers can experience a medical emergency at any time. Keep your medical info up-to-date.

Published: 10/7/2019



Do you carry basic medical and contact info with you on the road?

Need our free download?

Published: 10/8/2019



Ensure that a home support team member has your company's contact info in case of emergency.

Published: 10/9/2019



What emergency medical information will be needed if you're ever in an accident?

Published: 10/10/2019



Write out your health insurance provider's contact info on your emergency medical form.

Published: 10/11/2019



Before driving, you as the driver must be satisfied that your truck's brakes are properly adjusted.

Published: 10/14/2019



Has your trucking company ever refused to adjust the brakes on your truck? What happened?

Published: 10/15/2019



Brake adjustments on trucks based in the USA are usually made with a 9/16th-inch or crescent wrench.

Published: 10/16/2019



Have you ever attempted to adjust the brakes on your truck yourself?
How did that work for you?

Published: 10/17/2019



49 CFR § 396.25 covers qualifications of brake inspectors.

The FMCSA website has Guidance Q&A on this.

Published: 10/18/2019



Truckers may use a CB radio to communicate with others and gain knowledge of conditions ahead.

Published: 10/21/2019



Ever been at a shipper or receiver that used CB radios to communicate?
What happened?

Published: 10/22/2019



Actively monitoring a CB for your name or truck number at a customer location may rob you of rest.

Published: 10/23/2019



Have you ever asked a shipper or receiver to contact you via cell phone instead of via CB?

Published: 10/24/2019



Sometimes a good tune-up or better antenna can help a trucker improve reception on a CB radio.

Published: 10/25/2019



Commercially produced freeze dried foods vary in content, taste, seasoning, and quantity.

Published: 10/28/2019



What are your favorite freeze dried foods? Eat them often? Are they worthy of a product review?

Published: 10/29/2019



Some freeze dried foods may require less hot water for rehydration than the label states.

Published: 10/30/2019



Ever compared the cost of freeze dried food to food freshly prepared?
What did you find?

Published: 10/31/2019



Before you buy freeze dried food, make sure it has been sealed with nitrogen to reduce oxidation.

Published: 11/1/2019



12-volt appliances can only be powered by a 12-volt power source. Do not use too many at one time.

Published: 11/4/2019



On average, what has been your experience with the lifespan of 12-volt products you've used?

Published: 11/5/2019



Consider your needs before buying a 12-volt cooking appliance, like warming soup vs. frying eggs.

Published: 11/6/2019



Does the 12-volt appliance you're considering buying include a temperature control knob?

Published: 11/7/2019



If your truck has electrical system issues when you're running a 12-volt product, unplug it.

Published: 11/8/2019



For best results, always use a gauge to measure tire pressure instead of a thumping device.

Published: 11/11/2019



Do super singles wear better than, the same as, or not as well as regular truck tires?

Published: 11/12/2019



If your truck pulls to the left or to the right, your truck may need an alignment.

Consult an expert.

Published: 11/13/2019



How often do you check the inside surfaces of the inner or outer tires on your tractor or trailer?

Published: 11/14/2019



While you're checking your rig's tires, check that all lug nuts are not cracked, broken or missing.

Published: 11/15/2019



Holiday traveling can challenge truckers.
Allow extra time in trip planning for traffic slowdowns.

Published: 11/18/2019



Have any tips for successfully surviving holiday travel as a trucker? Would you please share them?

Published: 11/19/2019



Many holiday travelers are not focused on driving. Drive defensively. Anticipate the actions of others.

Published: 11/20/2019



Besides distracted driving awareness, what other travel tips would be good to remember on holidays?

Published: 11/21/2019



Whether at holiday time or any time, keep your mind focused on your job as you drive. Avoid distraction.

Published: 11/22/2019



The best time to clean your mirrors may be when you clean your windshield, whenever you fuel.

Published: 11/25/2019



Which product have you found best cleans vehicle glass and mirrors?
Does it require dilution?

Published: 11/26/2019



Hood-mounted convex mirrors can help truckers see vehicles alongside their trucks.

Published: 11/27/2019



Use a camera monitoring system?

Does each camera give a wider field of view than a mirror?

Published: 11/28/2019



Truck-Drivers-Money-Saving-Tips.com

In narrow docks, folding mirrors in help prevent vehicle collisions and make truck exit and entry easier.

Published: 11/29/2019



3 types of packing lists for OTR truckers are personal, food and equipment, and job-related.

Published: 12/2/2019



Ever run out of a needed item in-truck?
What was it and could you

What was it and could you substitute anything?

Published: 12/3/2019



Every trucker needs and uses certain items like ink pens.
Our packing lists are free downloads.

Published: 12/4/2019



Does your trucking company prohibit certain items in their trucks?
Which ones and why?

Published: 12/5/2019



Some trucking companies and jurisdictions prohibit truckers from having weapons. Be prepared.

Published: 12/6/2019



Pre-packaged foods may make meals easier to prepare. Evaluate nutritional quality before buying.

Published: 12/9/2019



What's your favorite prepackaged food? Ever tried to make a homemade variation of it?

Published: 12/10/2019



Canned foods must be pressure cooked for the length of time specified in a canning book.

Published: 12/11/2019



Does your home support team help you save money by preparing canned food for you? What kind?

Published: 12/12/2019



Fresh leafy green produce may last longer by being vacuum sealed in a glass canning jar.

Published: 12/13/2019



Flashlights vary widely in many respects, including how to hold, brightness, power source, etc.

Published: 12/16/2019



Ever used a flashlight when the batteries grew dim? Did you have spares to replace them?

Published: 12/17/2019



Before buying, consider the battery or batteries a flashlight uses and if they can be recharged.

Published: 12/18/2019



If you use rechargeable batteries for your flashlight, do you have a recharging unit in-truck?

Published: 12/19/2019



Spotlights can be much brighter than flashlights and may have a limited 'on' cycle activated by a trigger.

Published: 12/20/2019



Trucking companies that are serious about safety provide their drivers with ongoing training.

Published: 12/23/2019



How often does your trucking company provide safety training?
Can you receive it in-truck?

Published: 12/24/2019



Seek to acquire safety training regularly, to help you hone your skills as a professional driver.

Published: 12/25/2019



How does your company reward truckers for safe driving? Are the rewards valuable to you?

Published: 12/26/2019



Training engineers need to teach trucker trainees to drive safely in various kinds of situtions.

Published: 12/27/2019

