



Texas Department of Motor Vehicles

HELPING TEXANS GO. HELPING TEXAS GROW.

Vehicle Weight Verification Guidelines

The following information provides guidance for determining and entering accurate motor vehicle weights when processing title transactions using a Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin (MCO), a Texas Title, or an Out-of-State Title. Accurate weight information is critical for determining registration class, carrying capacity, and associated fees. ***This guideline is for use in motor vehicle transactions only and should not be referenced for processing of trailer transactions.***

Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin (MCO)

1. Locate the Empty Weight

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN FOR A VEHICLE

Ford

DATE: **AUGUST 26, 2025** INVOICE NO.: **RB52426** 2

VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NO.: **[REDACTED] B52426** YEAR: **2025** MAKE: **FORD**

BODY TYPE: **121 MAVERICK SUPERCREW XLT AWD** **SHIPPING WEIGHT 3589 LBS.**

HP (SAE): **17.50** GVWR: **5240 LBS** NO. CYLS: **4** **W8JK**

NOMINAL TONNAGE: **1/2**

I, the undersigned authorized representative of the company, firm or corporation named below, hereby certify that the new vehicle described above is the property of the said company, firm or corporation and is transferred on the above date and under the Invoice Number indicated to the following distributor or dealer.

NAME OF DISTRIBUTOR, DEALER, ETC.: **[REDACTED]**

SURRENDERED

- Identify the Empty Weight (sometimes labeled “Shipping Weight”) listed on the Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin.
- This represents the total weight of the vehicle without passengers, cargo, or fluids.

2. Round and Adjust the Empty Weight

- Round the listed Empty Weight up to the next 100 pounds.

For passenger class vehicles, after rounding, add an additional 100 pounds (per [RTB 010-16](#)).

For truck or truck tractor class vehicles, after rounding, DO NOT add an additional 100 pounds.

- This adjusted number becomes the vehicle's Computed Empty Weight to be entered into the system.

Example passenger class vehicle: MCO Empty Weight: 3,589 lbs. --> Round up: 3,600 lbs. -> +100 lbs. = Computed Empty Weight: 3,700 lbs.

Example truck or truck tractor class vehicle: MCO Empty Weight: 3,589 lbs. --> Round up: 3,600 lbs. = Computed Empty Weight: 3,600 lbs.

3. Determine Carrying Capacity (If Applicable)

Note: If the vehicle is a passenger-truck (SUV, Crossover, passenger van etc.) that intends to carry a load or a truck or work panel van, a carrying capacity would be applicable. Not applicable to motor vehicles that are not designed to carry a load (not including passengers).

- Determine the carrying capacity using the formula below.

Carrying Capacity = Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) - Computed Empty Weight

Example: MCO reflects GVWR= 5,240 lbs. and Computed Empty Weight= 3,700 lbs.

GVWR 5,240 lbs. - Computed Empty Weight 3,700 lbs. = Carrying Capacity 1,540 lbs.

Texas Title

1. Locate the Empty Weight

The image shows a sample Texas Certificate of Title form. The form is titled "TEXAS CERTIFICATE OF TITLE" and includes the TxDMV logo. It contains various fields for vehicle information, including Vehicle Identification Number, Year Model (2014), Make of Vehicle (TOYT), Body Style (LL), Title/Document Number, Date Title Issued (02/19/2022), Model (FJC), Mfg. Capacity in Tons, Weight (4200, highlighted in a red box), License Number, Previous, Owner, Actual Mileage (33100), and Remarks. There is also a section for the signature of the owner or agent, a date of lien (NONE), and a section for the first lienholder and release date.

- Identify the Empty Weight listed on the Texas Title.
- This represents the total weight of the vehicle without passengers, cargo, or fluids.

2. Round up to the Nearest 100 Pounds (If needed)

- If the listed Empty Weight does not end in a multiple of 100, round up to the next hundred. Do not add an additional 100 pounds (since this process would have been done initially).

Example: Title Empty Weight: 3,821 lbs. --> Rounded up to next 100 --> 3,900 lbs.

3. Determine Carrying Capacity (If Applicable)

- If the customer or applicant supplies a carrying capacity for their vehicle, you will utilize the supplied carrying capacity even if the supplied capacity is less than 1,000 lbs.
- If the customer is unable to supply a carrying capacity, then the empty weight of the vehicle should be subtracted from the GVWR listed on the vehicle's permanently mounted information sticker (usually located on the driver's side door jamb) to determine the carrying capacity: $\text{Carrying Capacity} = \text{GVWR} - \text{Empty Weight}$.
- If the customer is unable to supply the carrying capacity and the GVWR sticker is not accessible or missing, reference Table 10-1, Minimum Carrying Capacity for Trucks, located in Chapter 10 of the [Texas Motor Vehicle Title Manual](#) to determine the appropriate carrying capacity. This chart provides the minimum carrying capacity based on the vehicle's Empty Weight when a carrying capacity is not supplied or cannot be determined.

Using the vehicle's empty weight, locate the corresponding minimum carrying capacity allowed for the vehicle on table 10-1 in the Texas Motor Vehicle Title Manual.

Table 10-1 Minimum Carrying Capacity for Trucks

EMPTY WEIGHT OR SHIPPING WEIGHT	MINIMUM CARRYING CAPACITY
6,000 lbs. or less	1,000 lbs.
6,001 - 7,500 lbs.	1,500 lbs.
7,501 - 10,000 lbs.	2,000 lbs.
10,001 - 14,000 lbs.	3,000 lbs.
14,001 - 16,000 lbs.	4,000 lbs.
16,001 - 19,500 lbs.	5,000 lbs.
19,501 - 26,000 lbs.	6,000 lbs.
26,001 - 33,000 lbs.	7,000 lbs.

Example: As shown in table 10-1, a rounded empty weight of 3,900 lbs. would have a minimum carrying capacity of 1,000 lbs.

Out-of-State (OOS) Title

1. Locate the Weight Information on the Out-of-State Title

The image shows a New York State Certificate of Title form. The title is "NEW YORK STATE" and the document is titled "CERTIFICATE OF TITLE". The form contains the following information:

Title and Identification No.	Year	Make	Model Code	Body/Full	Document No.
[Redacted]	1988	CHEVR	CAM	2DSD	[Redacted]
Color	Wt./Sts./Lgh.	Fuel	Cyl./Prop.	New or Used	Type of Title
RD	3019	GAS	6	USED	VEHICLE
Name and Address of Owner(s)		Date Issued			
[Redacted]		6/30/08			
ODOMETER READING: EXEMPT					
VEHICLE OVER 10 YEARS OLD					

Below the table, there is a section for "Lienholder" with four entries, each followed by the text "* NO LIENS RECORDED *".

At the bottom of the form, it says "DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES" and "MV-999 (7/03)".

- Other states may refer to the empty weight as "empty weight, unladen weight, shipping weight or curb weight," which are all acceptable variances. These refer to the vehicle's weight without passengers, cargo, or fluids.

2. Round Up to the Nearest 100 Pounds (If needed)

- If the listed weight does not end in a multiple of 100, round up to the next hundred. Do not add an additional 100 pounds (since this process may have been done initially).

Example: Title 'Unladen Weight': 4,256 lbs. --> Round up --> 4,300 lbs.

3. Determine Carrying Capacity (If Applicable)

- If the customer or applicant supplies a carrying capacity for their vehicle, you will utilize the supplied carrying capacity even if the supplied capacity is less than 1,000 lbs.

- If the customer is unable to supply the carrying capacity and both an Empty Weight and GVWR are listed then: Carrying Capacity = GVWR - Empty Weight. If the GVWR is not listed on the title, the GVWR can be obtained from the vehicle's permanently mounted information sticker (usually located on the driver's side door jamb).

- If the customer is unable to supply the carrying capacity, only an Empty Weight is listed, and the GVWR cannot be determined based on the vehicle's information sticker, reference Table 10-1 from the Texas Title Manual to determine the minimum carrying capacity. This chart provides the minimum carrying capacity based on the vehicle's Empty Weight when a carrying capacity is not supplied or cannot be determined.

Example A (both GVWR and empty weight are listed on OOS Title):

Title reflects GVWR: 6,775 lbs. & Empty Weight: 4,300 lbs.

6,775 lbs. (GVWR) – 4,300 lbs. (Empty Weight) = 2,475 lbs. (Carrying Capacity)

Example B (only empty weight is listed on OOS Title):

Title reflects Empty Weight: 7,100 lbs.

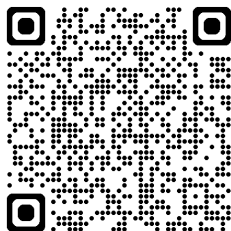
Since no GVWR is listed to determine the exact carrying capacity, utilize the minimum carrying capacity for a weight of 7,100 lbs. listed on Table 10-1, which gives a carrying capacity of 1,500 lbs.

Note: In accordance with [RTB 010-16](#), if an Out-of-State title does not reference an empty weight or GVWR, applicants can utilize the information sticker on the vehicle for GVWR only, and www.kbb.com or www.jdpower.com/cars (previously referenced as www.nadaguides.com, which has since been decommissioned) for the empty weight. If an empty weight still cannot be determined, a certified weight certificate will be required. Additionally, the requirement of a weight certificate for vehicles with an empty weight of 5,800 lbs. or more listed in RTB 010-16 is no longer applicable. If there are concerns about the vehicle's weight, then a weight certificate may be requested.

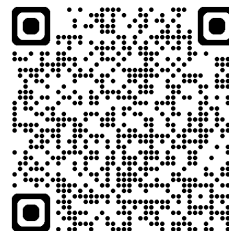
Resources

Information contained within this guide can be referenced using the following QR codes.

Texas Motor Vehicle Title Manual



Texas Motor Vehicle Registration Manual



PLEASE NOTE: This document will be updated as needed. and does not encompass all possible scenarios. For additional guidance, refer to the Texas [Motor Vehicle Title Manual](#) (Chapter 10) and the [Motor Vehicle Registration Manual](#), (Chapter 9 & 14).