

Axle Load Limits Permissible Maximum Axle Load Limits

Axle Type	No. of tyres on the axle	Type of tyre	Permissible limit (metric tonnes)
Single	2	Conventional	8
Single	4	Conventional	10
Tandem	8	Conventional	18
Tandem	4	Super Single	16
Tridem	12	Conventional	24
Tridem	6	Super Single	22.5
Liftable single	4	Conventional	10
Liftable single	2	Super Single	8.5

Source: EAC Vehicle Load Control Act

1. A tolerance of 5% of the permissible maximum axle load limit shall be allowed on the axle load limits.

Any vehicle established to be overloaded on the axle or axle group but is within the prescribed gross vehicle weight as per the axle configuration shall be allowed to redistribute its cargo to within tolerance before being re-weighed and allowed to proceed with its journey. Such vehicles will not be charged.

Any vehicle which is overloaded on the axle and axle group and cannot redistribute its cargo to within allowable tolerance shall be charged.

To harmonize with EAC Vehicle Load Bill, Kenya enacted the Traffic (Amendment) Rules, 2013, which grant an allowance of 5% on the legal axle and axle group weights limits to take care of possible movement of cargo while on transit as indicated in the Table 4 below.

Allowable Tolerance on Permissible Maximum Axle Load Limits

No	Axle Type	Legal Weight (Kg)	5% Tolerance (Kg)	Allowable Weight (Kg)
1	Single Steering Axle	8,000	400	8,400

2	Single axle with four wheels fitted with conventional tyres	10,000	500	10500
3	Single axle with two wheels fitted with Super Single tyres	8,500	425	8,925
4	Double steering axle having two wheels fitted with conventional tyres	12,000	600	12,600
5	Double steering having four wheels fitted with conventional tyres	16,000	800	16,800
6	Tandem axle group having two wheels fitted with Super Single tyres	16,000	800	16,800
7	Tandem axle group having four wheels fitted with conventional tyres	18,000	900	18,900
8	Triple axle group each having two wheels fitted with Super Single tyres	22,500	1,125	23,625
9	Triple axle group having four wheels fitted with conventional tyres	24,000	1,200	25,200

2. A vehicle with liftable axles shall be fitted with the manufacturer's certified dead man's switch and must have an automatic drop-down mechanism when loaded.
3. No axle in the tandem or tridem axle group shall exceed the permissible maximum single axle load limits.
4. The maximum number of axles in any axle groups shall be limited to three (3) axles.
5. The conventional tyres and inflation pressures that match the recommended axle load limits shall be the following:
 - (a) A 1100 x 20, which is an 11-inch (280 mm) wide cross-ply tyre, fitted to a 20-inch diameter wheel rim and inflated at a pressure of 750 kPa (7.5 bars); or,
 - (b) A 12 R 22.5, which is a 12-inch (305 mm) wide radial-ply tyre on a 22.5-inch diameter wheel rim and inflated at a pressure of 800 kPa (8.0 bars); or,
 - (c) A 315/80R22.5, which is a 315 mm wide tyre inflated at a pressure of 800kPa or 8.0 bars.

The super single tyre shall be of size 385/65R22.5, but will be progressively replaced with wide-base single tyres such as 455/55R22

(a) Gross Vehicle Weight Limits

The permissible maximum Gross Vehicle Weight shall be 56 metric tonnes, subject to the following conditions:

1. The vehicle shall have a maximum of seven (7) axles.
2. The GVW shall be limited in relation to the vehicle spatial axle load distribution of using the bridge formula.

(b) Vehicle Dimensions, Axle Load Configurations and Vehicle Combinations

Table 4: Dimensions, Configurations and Combinations

Standard /Provision	Type of tyre	Proposed Standard/Provision	EAC
Maximum overall length of Vehicles (m)	Rigid Vehicle	12.5	
	Articulated Vehicle	17.4	
	Combination vehicles	22	
Maximum overall width of Vehicles (m)	All categories	2.65	
Maximum overall height of Vehicles (m)	All categories	4.3	
Projecting load limits - front and rear (m)	All categories	1.25	
Projecting load limits - sides (m)	All categories	0.15	

Source: EAC Vehicle Load Control Bill, 2012

Additional Requirements for Bulk Liquid Tank

The Weights and Measures Act (Cap. 513) in Kenya, requires bulk liquid tanks to:

1. Have an identification plate affixed and containing information on name of manufacturer, year of manufacture of the measure, serial number, registration number of the vehicle, for measure mounted on a vehicle and the nominal capacity of the measure.
2. All tankers must be calibrated by an officer of the Department of Weights and Measures.