

January 6, 2025

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SAFETY



MONDAY

Pre -Trips / Post-Trips

“Don’t Sweat the Small Stuff” may be a decent philosophy for everyday life but is not a best practice when it comes to pre and post tripping your vehicle and accurately completing the Daily Vehicle Inspection Report (DVIR).



One of the key items of a proper pre-trip inspection is to properly inspect the air brake system focusing on 3 main components:

- **Checking for air leaks** by listening for hissing sounds while applying the brakes.
- **Testing the low air pressure warning system** to ensure it activates at the correct pressure level.
- **Verifying proper activation of the tractor protection valves (typically red) and parking brake control valve (usually yellow)** to ensure they engage when necessary.

Remembering that a proper air brake test is required **daily** for CDL vehicles (equipped with air brakes) following the steps outlined below.

1. Engine on / Brakes on – check gauges to make sure governor cuts compressor off at 120 psi. Pump brakes until pressure drops below 100 psi to make sure governor cuts compressor on.
2. Engine off / Brakes off – do not touch brakes – watch gauges to make sure pressure does not drop more than 3 psi in one minute.
3. Press and hold brake pedal – watch gauges to make sure pressure does not drop more than 4 psi in one minute.
4. Turn- key on / Engine off / Brakes off – pump brake until pressure drops to 60 psi – warning buzzer should sound at or before 60 psi.
5. Continue pumping brakes until reaching 20 to 40 psi – Emergency (red) and Service (yellow) brake valves should pop out turning brakes on.
6. Rebuild air pressure in tank – hold accelerator at 1500 RPM. Watch air gauges and notice that pressure rate of build between 85 psi and 100 psi should not take more than 45 seconds.
7. Perform tug tests. Tug against Parking Brake only. Tug against Emergency

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