

# Guidelines for Chain Control



Vehicles are permitted in chain control areas when equipped with chains or Automatic Traction Device (ATD) as indicated.

Legal tread depth for mud and snow tires is 6/32" minimum.

Trucks with cable type chains are legal in California. However, these trucks may be restricted at times due to local conditions.

The Department of Transportation reserves the right to prohibit any vehicle from entering a chain control area when it's determined the vehicle will experience difficulty in safely traveling the area.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor  
Dale E. Bonner, Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing  
Randell H. Iwasaki, Director  
Jody Jones, District 3 Director

# TRUCKS - Single drive trucks must use three-railers. Cables must have minimum 1/2 inch cross-links

## Maximum

Truck Type 2

Truck Type 3

Tractor and Semi-trailer Single Dr.

Tractor and Semi-trailer Type 3-S-2

Tractor, Semi-trailer and Trailer Type 3-S-1-T-2

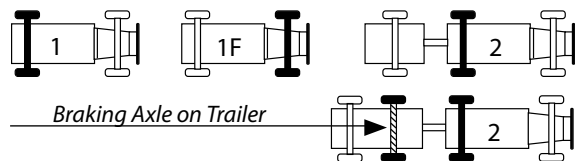
Truck and Trailer Type 3-T-3 or 3-T-2

**The following truck may be restricted when chains are required.**

Tractor, Semi-trailer and Trailer Type 2-S-1-T-2

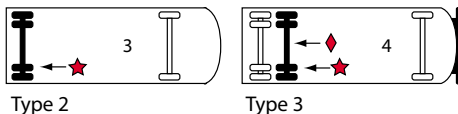
Super-Singles **Maximum** = All Four Drive Wheels

## Autos/Pickups



## Buses/Recreational Vehicles

(Articulated buses must also chain outside wheels of last axle.)



## Minimum

Truck Type 3

Tractor and Semi-trailer Type 3-S-2

Truck and Trailer, and Trailer Type 3-S-1-T-2

Super-Singles **Minimum** = Two Drive Wheels

## LEGEND

- Driving Axle
  - Non-driving Axle
  - Braking Axle on Trailer
  - Wheel With Chains or ATD
  - Wheel With No Chains
  - Chains Required On Inside, Dual if Possible
  - Drive Axle Must Be Chained
  - Chains On Trailers May Be Staggered Front and Back
  - Caltrans May Require Chains On All Drive Wheels If Conditions Warrant
  - Both Axles Must Be Chained. (four wheels with chains or ATD)
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## NOTES

- All vehicles, including four-wheel drive vehicles, that are towing trailers must have chains on one drive axle.
- Trailers with brakes must have chains on braking axle.
- Front-wheel drive vehicles must have chains on front (drive) axle.
- On any semi-trailer, only one set of chains is required regardless of number of axles.
- Chains are not required on tag axle.

