

Maximum permitted weights and dimensions, goods transport Germany

Height	4.00m
Width	
Motor vehicle/trailer	2.55m
Superstructure of conditioned vehicle (minimum thickness of walls: 45mm)	2.60m
Length	
Motor vehicle	12.00m
Trailer	12.00m
Articulated vehicle (provided the above-mentioned lengths are respected)	16.50m ¹
Road train (provided the above-mentioned lengths are respected)	18.75m ²
Car transporter	
· empty	18.75m
· loaded	20.75m ³
Weight per axle	
single axle	10.0t
drive axle	11.5t
provided the weight per single axle is respected, tandem axle of motor vehicle with a distance between the axles of	
· less than 1.00m	11.5t
· 1.00m to less than 1.30m	16.0t
· 1.30m to less than 1.80m	18.0t
· 1.30m to less than 1.80m, and the drive axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or equivalent	19.0t
provided the weight per single axle is respected, tandem axle of trailer or semi-trailer with a distance between the axles of	
· less than 1.00m	11.0t
· 1.00m to less than 1.30m	16.0t
· 1.30m to less than 1.80m	18.0t
· 1.80m or more	20.0t
provided the specifications for a tandem axle are respected, tridem axle of trailer or semi-trailer with a distance between the axles of	
· 1.30m or less	21.0t
· over 1.30m to 1.40m	24.0t
Maximum permitted weight	
Motor vehicle	
· with not more than 2 axles	18.0t
· with 3 axles	25.0t
· with 3 axles and with a double axle of a fixed definition	26.0t
· with 4 axles and with a double axle of a fixed definition	32.0t
· with more than 4 axles of a fixed definition	32.0t
Trailer (not semi trailer)	
· with not more than 2 axles	18.0t
· with 3 axles	24.0t
Articulated vehicle	
· with 3 axles	28.0t
· with 4 axles (2+2) with a distance between the axles of the semi-trailer of 1.30m or more	36.0t
· with 4 axles (2+2), with a distance between the axles of the semi-trailer of over 1.80m, and the drive axle is fitted with twin tyres and air suspension or equivalent	38.0t
· with 4 axles, other than those mentioned above (3+1)	35.0t
· with 5/6 axles (2+3, 3+2/3)	40.0t

· with more than 4 axles in combined transport operations	44.0t ⁴
Road train	
· with less than 4 axles	28.0t
· with 4 axles (2+2)	36.0t
· with 4 axles, other than 2+2	35.0t
· with 5/6 axles (2+3, 3+2/3)	40.0t
· with more than 4 axles in combined transport operations	44.0t ⁴

¹ The maximum total length of an articulated vehicle is 16.50m if the maximum distance between the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin and the rear of the semi-trailer is 12m, and the distance measured horizontally between the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin and any point at the front of the semi-trailer does not exceed 2.04m; otherwise, the maximum length is 15.50m.

² The maximum total length of a road train is 18.75m, provided the maximum authorised lengths of the different parts are not exceeded – a total load length of 15.65m and a maximum distance of 16.40m between the foremost external point of the loading area behind the cabin and the rearmost external point of the loading area of the trailer of the combination.

³ The overhang must not exceed 0.50m to the front of the vehicle (only for vehicles with a height over 2.50 m) and 1.50m to the rear.

⁴ This total weight not only applies to the transport of 40' ISO containers, but also in a general manner to vehicles with more than 4 axles used in the first or last leg of a combined transport operation:

- *road/rail* between the place of loading or unloading and the nearest appropriate station; in accompanied combined transport (rolling highway) between the place of loading or unloading and the appropriate station within a maximum radius of 150km;
- *inland waterway/road* between the place of loading or unloading and a river port within a maximum radius of 150km;
- *sea/road* (with a sea leg of over 100km) between the place of loading or unloading and a sea port within a maximum radius of 150km.

Sources: BGL, March 2015