Your Guide to Shipping Flatbed
**IT’S ALL IN THE DETAILS**

A lot of planning and thought goes into flatbed shipping - from load requirements like tarping and dunnage to the specific kind of equipment required to ship your product and most importantly, driver safety. At Strive Logistics, our dedicated team of flatbed experts are here to help you navigate the complex world of flatbed shipping.

**TRAILER TYPES**

Here’s a quick breakdown of the most common trailer types we offer and their requirements. Need help choosing what’s best for your freight? Just give us a call and we’ll ask all the right questions to help you decide.

### Standard Flatbed Trailer/Legal Flatbed Trailer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Up to 48,000 lbs. standard - can scale more based on assigned trailer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>48 ft. standard - 53 ft. options available dependent on market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width</td>
<td>8.5 ft. (102 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>8.5 ft. (102 in.) Maximum Height of Freight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarps</td>
<td>4, 6 and 8 ft. options available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Overhang on rear or front of trailer is allowed on standard flatbeds given customer needs and approval. Overhang limits may apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Step Deck Trailer/Single Drop Trailer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Up to 45,000 lbs. standard - can scale more based on trailer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>48 ft. and 53 ft. standard, 10-11 ft. of loading space on the top deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The loading space of lower deck is determined by subtracting the length of the top deck from the overall trailer length.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width</td>
<td>8.5 ft. (102 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tarps</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Loading ramps also available based on capacity and market.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Double Drop Trailer/Low Boy Trailer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Generally 38,000-40,000 lbs. maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>28 ft. of loading space on the main deck or “well”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width</td>
<td>8.5 ft. (102 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>11.5 ft. (138 in.) Maximum Height of Freight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarps</td>
<td>4, 6 and 8 ft. options available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Often used for overdimensional shipments.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TRAILER TYPES, CONTINUED

Removable Goose Neck (RGN) Trailer
WEIGHT: Generally 38,000-40,000 lbs. maximum
LENGTH: 28 ft. of loading space on the mail deck or “well”
WIDTH: 8.5 ft. (102 in.)
HEIGHT: 11.5 ft. (138 in.) Maximum Height of Freight
TARPS: 4, 6 and 8 ft. options available
NOTE: Can be utilized for roll on/roll off freight

Multi Axle Trailer
WEIGHT: Dependent on number of axles and state and county restrictions
LENGTH: Based on the trailer type - all trailer types have multi axle options
WIDTH: 8.5 ft. (102 in.)
HEIGHT: Based on trailer type
All trailer types have multi axle options
TARPS: 4, 6 and 8 ft. options available
NOTE: Strive Logistics regularly works with customers whose needs are specific to heavy haul freight. Our expert flatbed team stays updated and educated on state regulations We can assist with anything you need.

Stretch Flatbed Trailer/Extendable Flatbed Trailer
WEIGHT: 45,000 lbs. standard - weight limitations can apply based on the size and scope of freight and trailer assigned
LENGTH: 45-80 ft. - length limitations can apply based on state and county restrictions
WIDTH: 8.5 ft. (102 in.)
HEIGHT: 8.5 ft. (102 in.)
TARPS: Tarps available upon request.
NOTE: Permits can apply. We can help you figure out what permits your load needs.

Stretch/Extendable Step Deck Trailer/Single Drop Trailer
WEIGHT: 43,000 lbs. as a general rule - weight limitations can apply based on the size and scope of freight and trailer assigned
LENGTH: 38-63 ft. - length limitations can apply based on state and county restrictions
WIDTH: 8.5 ft. (102 in.)
HEIGHT: 8.5 ft. (102 in.)
TARPS: Tarps available upon request.
NOTE: Permits can apply. We can help you figure out which permits your load needs.
YOUR GUIDE TO FLATBED SHIPPING

TRAILER TYPES, CONTINUED

Stretch/Extendable Double Drop Trailer/Low Boy Trailer

- **WEIGHT:** 40,000 lbs. as a general rule - weight limitations can apply based on the size and scope of freight and trailer assigned
- **LENGTH:** 29-50 ft. loading space on the main deck or “well” - length limitations can apply based on state and county restrictions
- **WIDTH:** 8.5 ft (102 in.)
- **HEIGHT:** 11.5 ft. (138") Maximum Height Freight
- **TARPS:** Tarps available upon request.
- **NOTES:** Permits can apply. We can help you figure out which permits your load needs.

Conestoga Trailer

- **WEIGHT:** Up to 48,000 lbs. standard - can scale more based on assigned trailer
- **LENGTH:** 48 ft. standard - 53 ft. options available dependent on market
- **WIDTH:** 96-102 in.
- **HEIGHT:** 8.5 ft. (102 in.) Maximum Height of Freight
- **NOTE:** Conestoga trailers are fully retractable from the front and rear of the trailer. Can be side or rear loaded and off-loaded. Overhead loading is also available.

Side Kit Trailer

- **WEIGHT:** Up to 48,000 lbs. standard - can scale more based on assigned trailer
- **LENGTH:** 48 ft. standard
- **WIDTH:** 96-102 in.
- **HEIGHT:** 4-6 ft. sides with a rounded tarp system means the maximum height of the freight is dependent on the peak of the bow. As a general rule, the bow if 6.5 ft. high at the center.
- **NOTE:** Sides can be removed to side or rear load and off-load freight. Overhead loading is also available.

LEGAL RESTRICTIONS

**LEGAL MAX HEIGHT:** 13 ft. 6 in. or 162 in. from the ground to the top of the load

**LEGAL MAX WIDTH:** 8 ft. 6 in. or 102 in. wide. If a load is wider then 102 in. then a permit will apply.

**LEGAL LENGTH:** Overhang on rear or front of trailer is allowed on standard flatbeds given customer needs and approval. Overhang limits may apply. Overhang on a 53 ft. trailer is not legally allowed.

**LEGAL MAX WEIGHT:** The legal maximum weight depends on the state and trailer type. Some trailers are allowed more weight based on axle count and equipment type. These requirements are state and county specific.
LEGAL VS. ILLEGAL OR OVERSIZED LOAD

LEGAL LOAD
A legal load is one that fits within the size restrictions regulated by federal and state law. Any load that falls outside the legal parameters of a trailer's height, width, length and weight can still be transported with the proper permits. Restrictions are applied to the trailer and load combined.

ILLEGAL LOAD
An illegal load is any load that exceeds the maximum height, width, length and weight. These types of loads can be legally transported as long as the proper permits are pulled. Permitted loads are subject to restrictions based on each state's Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements. Loads are subject to transit limitations dependent on time of day, holidays, and weekends. They will also sometimes require an escort.

BASIC FLATBED ACCESSORIES

STRAPS AND TIEDOWNS
Straps are used to properly and safely secure a flatbed load during transit. To ensure the freight does not shift, each tiedown and its attachment mechanisms must be designed to allow for adjustment and tightening during transit. All flatbed carriers have straps on their trailers, although the number of straps on the trailer is dependent on the particular carrier or truck. It is very important to know the exact amount of straps needed for each load.

CHAINS
Chains are used much like straps to safely secure loads. Chains are often needed on heavier loads, such as stand up coils and machinery, due to the weight of the freight. Chains are secured and adjusted using chain binders or ratchet binders to ensure the load does not shift in transit. It's important to note that chains may scratch product in transit and require edge protectors.

V BOARDS/EDGE PROTECTORS
V boards or edge protectors are used to separate a load from the straps or chains used to secure it. They not only keep the product safe from possible scratches from contact with straps and chains, but they also ensure that the product doesn't damage the straps.

FLATBED TARPS
Flatbed tarps generally come in 4, 6 or 8 ft. lengths. Tarps are used to protect the freight from possible damage. Bad weather, road salt, and dirt are just a few things that could cause damage to the product.

BLOCKING, BRACING AND DUNNAGE
Blocking devices are used to immobilize a load and keep it from shifting to the front, back or side. The blocking device should be shaped to fit snugly against the cargo and should be braced properly to the floor of the trailer or between the load to create a safe separation of product. Dunnage, or 4x4s, are commonly used for blocking and bracing.

COILS, COIL RACKS AND DUNNAGE
Although there are several different ways to ship coils, most are shipped as either stand up or palletized (lay down). If a coil is too heavy to move by a fork lift, or if it can be damaged if laid down on a pallet, then the coil will have to be loaded standing up. Stand up coils require properly placed dunnage and coil racks to prevent them from rolling. Coil racks and dunnage go hand in hand - dunnage is placed underneath a coil and secured by the driver. Chains and straps will be used to make sure the coils don't move in transit. Knowing all the details, including coil count, loading procedures, weights, etc., will ensure our drivers are fully prepared when they arrive at the shipper. Our expert flatbed team make sure the drivers have everything they need before being dispatched to the shipper.
ABOUT

Strive Logistics is the best third-party logistics company because we combine technology, innovation, and industry expertise with amazing customer service to deliver world-class transportation services. Since 1995, clients across North America have relied on our efficient, effective, and easy-to-use solutions to deliver their business.

CONTACT US

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SAFE AND RELIABLE

Safety is our most important priority – for everyone involved. We only work with select trusted carriers so that you know your product is in good hands. We work with you to find the best, most reliable carrier for the job.

EXPERT AGENTS FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE

At Strive, every member of our Flatbed Logistics team is specially trained and certified through our flatbed training program. Through extensive site visits, customer tours and hands-on experience, our team of experts knows about every part of the process, from loading to unloading. They know what questions to ask to make sure all of the relevant information gets passed from the shipper to the carrier.

SPECIALTY LOADS

Everything’s bigger in Texas – we know big. From shipping oil field machinery in Texas to 100,000 pounds of steel rods in Michigan, oversized and heavy haul freight is a specialty. We are experts at finding which permits are required depending on your route, freight and trailer type. We’ll help you optimize your route for heavy haul and oversized loads.

INDUSTRIES SERVED

Nothing is too big or too heavy for us to ship. We have experience in a variety of industries, including:

» Commodities: Steel, Aluminum, Salts & Minerals, Plastics, Lumber, Coils
» Oil & Gas: Oil Field Equipment, Fracking Equipment, Piping, Machinery
» Construction: Machinery, Building Materials, Rebar, Concrete
» Automotive
» Pallets