

## **2011 RAM 1500** Tow Rating

Engine:	5.7L V8 HEMI (EZH)	Transmission:	A5 545RFE (DGQ) 5 SPD AUTO
Drive:	2WD	Tire Size:	P275/60R20
Cab:	CREW	Package:	PREMIUM
Bed:	N/A	Wheel Base:	140.5"
Axle Ratio:	3.21	Rear Wheels:	SINGLE

## **HOW MUCH CAN I TOW WITH A GOOSENECK?**

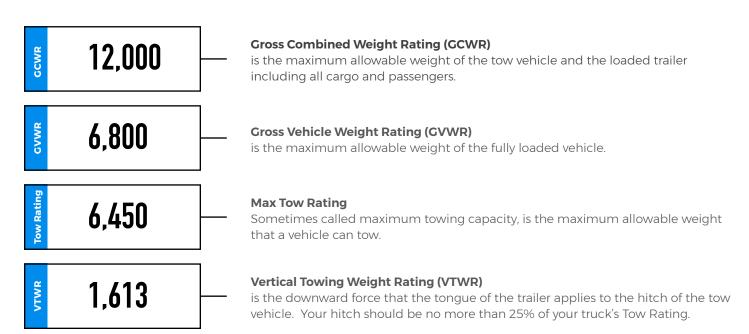
Boasting about towing a heavy load is common in this day and age. It's the focus of nearly every truck commercial. But the answer to how much you can safely tow isn't always easy to find and there are many variables. Nonetheless, weight ratings are important to understand and follow.

Truck manufacturers give their trucks specific ratings after extensive testing. Tow ratings are based on the capacity of a truck's engine, transmission, and brakes to safely handle the weight of a loaded trailer. Truck manufacturers calculate

how much a truck can safely accelerate and stop before assigning a tow rating. For Gross Weight Ratings, the truck's tires, frame, and suspension must be able to bear the load. It's important to never exceed the ratings assigned by the truck, trailer, or hitch manufacturers for the specific equipment you are using.

Gooseneck hitches should be tested for strength and durability and rated according to SAE J-2638.

## FINDING MANUFACTURER WEIGHT LIMITS



## FINDING YOUR ACTUAL WEIGHTS

Take your loaded truck and loaded trailer to a scale at a truck stop, quarry, or material supply center. For a small fee you can weigh your tow vehicle and trailer on their scale.

6,800 MUST BE MORE THAN  GVWR   your GVW	1. Find your GVW (Gross Vehicle Weight)  Weigh just your truck with a full tank of gas, all your passengers and items in the cab and truck bed with your trailer loaded and attached, but not on the scale.
12,000 MUST BE MORE THAN  GCWR   your GCW	2. Find your GCW (Gross Combined Weight)  Weigh your fully loaded truck and trailer including all cargo, a full tank of gas and passengers.
your GCW your Truck Weight your Towing Weight	3. Find your Towing Weight  Weigh your loaded truck without the trailer attached. This is your truck weight.  Subtract your Truck Weight from your GCW. This is your towing weight.
	MUST BE MORE THAN  Tow Rating  your Towing Weight
your GVW your Truck Weight your VTW	4. Find your VTW (Vertical Tow Weight) also known as Tongue Weight.  Subtract your Truck Weight from your GVW.
	MUST BE MORE THAN your VTW

