

A combination of vehicles is restricted by statute to a total gross weight not to exceed 80,000 lbs., (Transportation Code, Section 502.253). However, all combinations may not legally qualify for 80,000 lbs., unless the weight can be properly distributed in accordance with axle load limitations, tire size, and distance between axles. (Transportation Code, Section 621.101)

Issuing a Combination License Plate

For trucks and truck-tractors, registered for combined gross weights, one Combination License Plate is issued and should be displayed on the front of the unit. A windshield sticker will also be issued and should be displayed on the windshield. When displaying a Combination License Plate, a truck or truck-tractor is not restricted to pulling a semitrailer licensed with a Token Trailer License Plate. Instead, it can legally pull semitrailers and full trailers displaying other types of Texas license plates or license plates issued out-of-state. However, the pulling unit may be registered for a combined gross weight which includes the weight of all semitrailers operated in the combination, regardless of the type of registration displayed on such semitrailer(s).

Combination License Plates and/or registration stickers that have been lost, stolen, mutilated or need to be replaced for cosmetic or readability reasons may be obtained from any county tax assessor-collector's office. The applicant should sign the back of the Form RTS-500 or be required to complete an *Application for Replacement License Plate(s) and/or Registration Sticker* (Form VTR-60) and pay the \$6 replacement fee and the automation fee.

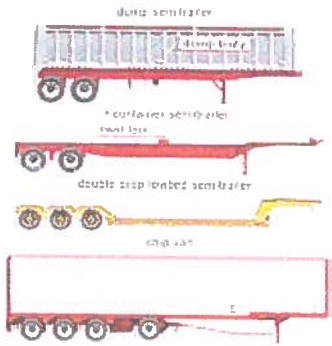
Token Trailer License Plates

Issue Token Trailer License Plates for semitrailers registered in combination. Token Trailer License Plates are issued on a staggered basis for \$15. Such plates are valid only when displayed on semitrailers being pulled by trucks or truck-tractors which have been properly registered with Combination, Apportioned, Forestry Vehicle, or Seasonal Permit License Plates for combined gross weights that include the weight of the semitrailers.

- The fee for a Token Trailer License Plate is \$15 and is never prorated.
- A copy of the registration receipt is no longer required by law to accompany the power unit when such vehicle is operated upon the public highways.

Token Trailer License Plates that have been lost, stolen, mutilated, or need to be replaced for cosmetic or readability reasons may be obtained from any county tax assessor-collector's office. The applicant should sign the back of the Form RTS-500 or be required to complete an *Application for Replacement License Plate(s) and/or Registration Sticker* (Form VTR-60) and pay the \$6 replacement fee and the automation fee.

Do not issue a Token Trailer License Plate for a full trailer. Register a full trailer with a trailer plate under the provisions of [Transportation Code, Sec. 502.254. Fee: Trailer, Travel Trailer, or Semitrailer](#). In the event a full trailer and a “Token Trailer” semitrailer are pulled by a power unit registered with a Combination License Plate, register the full trailer separately paying full registration fees for the trailer plate for its gross weight. No portion of the registered gross weight of the pulling unit should be applied to the weight of the full trailer.



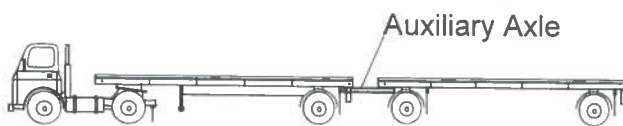
Semitrailer
(part of the weight rests on the pulling unit)

Full-trailer
(weight does not rest on the pulling unit)

Auxiliary Axles

Semitrailers converted to full trailers by means of auxiliary axle assemblies, retain the semitrailer status, and are subject to the Combination and Token Trailer registration requirements.

There are various types of axle assemblies specially designed for use in conjunction with other vehicles or combinations of vehicles in order to increase the load capabilities of such vehicles or combinations. The following is applicable to such axle assemblies.



- Auxiliary axle assemblies, such as trailer axle converters, jeep axles, drag axles, flip-up axles, etc., used in conjunction with truck-tractor and semitrailer combinations, are not required to be registered. However, include the additional weight acquired by the use of such axle assemblies in the combined gross weight of the combination.
- Register house-moving dollies with Token Trailer License Plates and title them as semitrailers; however, only one such dolly in a combination is registered and titled. The remaining dolly (or dollies) is permitted to operate unregistered, since by the nature of its construction, it is dependent upon another such vehicle in order to function. The pulling unit must display a Combination plate.