

## Understanding Weight Restriction Signs for Bridges in Virginia

Weight restriction signs for bridges and other structures are in place to keep motorists safe and to maintain the integrity of the structure. An overweight vehicle could damage a bridge or cause it to fail, leading to serious injury or death. **It is the driver's responsibility to know the weight of his or her vehicle.**

## Vehicle Types Used on VDOT Weight Restrictions Signs

The weight-restriction signage includes messages and visuals that are familiar to commercial vehicle drivers. Drivers will distinguish weight restrictions by axle count and gross vehicle weight. Some bridges may have separate weight restrictions for emergency vehicles. It is illegal for an overweight vehicle to cross a bridge or culvert, per Virginia Code § 46.2-1130, and doing so could result in significant fines per §§46.2-1131, -1132, -1133, -1134 and -1135.

SINGLE AND MULTIPLE-UNIT VEHICLES	EMERGENCY VEHICLES
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Single Unit Vehicle</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Any vehicle with a trailer permanently attached to the tractor, regardless of the number of tires, axles or axle configuration. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2-3 axles</b> cars, pick-up trucks, panel vans, box trucks, moving trucks, flat-bed trucks, buses, dump trucks, concrete trucks, crane trucks, etc.</li> <li>• <b>4-5 axles*</b> dump trucks, concrete trucks, crane trucks, etc.</li> <li>• <b>6+ axles*</b> dump trucks, concrete trucks, crane trucks, etc.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Emergency Vehicle 2 (EV2)</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>An emergency vehicle with <b>two single axles</b>. Examples: commercial and custom chassis pumpers, industrial foam pumpers and certain aerial ladders.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Multi-Unit Vehicle</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Any combination of tractor and trailer that can be easily separated regardless of the number of tires, axles or axle configuration. These vehicles are also sometimes referred to as truck-tractor, semitrailers or combination vehicles. Examples:</p> <p><b>3+ axles</b> tractor-trailers/semitrailers, cars towing boats or trailers, pick-up trucks with fifth-wheel trailers, flatbed trucks with trailers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Emergency Vehicle 3 (EV3)</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>An emergency vehicle with a front single axle and a tandem rear axle (<b>three axles or more</b>). Examples: commercial and custom chassis tankers, industrial foam pumpers (with a tandem axle), certain aerial ladders and aerial platforms.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">To learn more about trucks, legal weight for different vehicle types and hauling on Virginia roads, visit <a href="http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/commercial">www.dmv.virginia.gov/commercial</a> or <a href="http://www.virginiadot.org/info/trucking-main.asp">www.virginiadot.org/info/trucking-main.asp</a>.</p>	

\*Movable axle configurations apply only if the axle is lowered.

## How to Read VDOT Bridge Weight-Restriction Signs

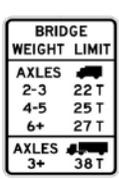
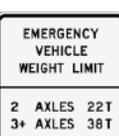
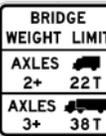
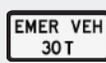
### SINGLE AND MULTI UNIT VEHICLES

### EMERGENCY VEHICLES

Single Standard Signs  
(No Separate Emergency Vehicle Sign)

Single Emergency Vehicle Sign  
(No Separate Standard Sign)

Combination Signs

<p>All single &amp; multi-unit vehicles including attached trailers <i>10-ton limit</i></p>		<p>All emergency vehicles <i>10-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>Single-unit vehicles with 2+ axles, any configuration <i>22-ton limit</i></p> <p>Multi-unit vehicles with 3+ axles <i>38-ton limit</i></p>		<p>All emergency vehicles EV2 (2 axles): <i>22-ton limit</i> EV3 (3+ axles): <i>38-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>Single-unit vehicles with 2+ axles, any configuration 2-3 axle: <i>22-ton limit</i> 4-5 axle: <i>25-ton limit</i> 6+ axle: <i>27-ton limit</i></p> <p>Multi-unit vehicles with 3+ axles <i>38-ton limit</i></p>		<p>All emergency vehicles EV2 (2 axles): <i>22-ton limit</i> EV3 (3+ axles): <i>38-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>No restriction</p>		<p>All emergency vehicles <i>25-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>No restriction</p>		<p>Emergency vehicles EV2 (2 axles): <i>22-ton limit</i> EV3 (3+ axles): <i>38-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>Weight restriction indicated on Standard Sign Applies <i>see examples below</i></p>		<p>All emergency vehicles <i>30-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>Weight restriction indicated on Standard Sign Applies <i>see examples below</i></p>		<p>Emergency vehicles EV2 (2 axles): <i>22-ton limit</i> EV3 (3+ axles): <i>38-ton limit</i></p>	
<p>Example Combination Signs</p>			
<p>All single &amp; multi-unit vehicles including attached trailers <i>10-ton limit</i></p>			<p>Single-unit vehicles with 2+ axles, <i>22-ton limit</i></p> <p>Multi-unit vehicles with 3+ axles <i>38-ton limit</i></p>
<p>Emergency vehicles EV2 (2 axles): <i>22-ton limit</i> EV3 (3+ axles): <i>38-ton limit</i></p>			<p>All emergency vehicles <i>30-ton limit</i></p>