

Test Your Truck Camper Knowledge

1. What is the most important number to check when determining the weight-bearing capacity of a specific truck?

- A) Towing capacity
- B) Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR)
- C) Payload capacity
- D) Fuel economy

2. Where should a truck camper's center of gravity fall when mounted to a truck?

- A) Behind the rear axle
- B) In front of the front axle
- C) Over or in front of the rear axle
- D) Anywhere if tie-downs are secure

3. What is the best way to verify your specific truck's payload capacity?

- A) Check the towing guide
- B) Look up the manufacturer's curb weight
- C) Search Google for the answer
- D) Check the yellow "Tire and Loading Information" sticker on the driver's side door jam

4. Which factor most commonly reduces a truck's payload capacity below what buyers expect?

- A) Fuel tank size
- B) Four-wheel drive option
- C) Engine, cab, and trim level options
- D) Color and wheel package

5. Why do slide-out campers typically weigh more than non-slide models?

- A) They require more insulation
- B) They are longer and wider
- C) Slide mechanisms and structure add weight
- D) They include more tanks

6. Which of the following is a major benefit of a pop-up truck camper compared to a hard-side camper?

- A) Lower profile and better fuel mileage
- B) Higher insulation value
- C) More interior space
- D) Larger fresh water tanks

7. What is RAWR (Rear Axle Weight Rating)?

- A) Maximum weight allowed on the rear axle
- B) Curb weight of rear wheels
- C) Weight distribution with trailer
- D) Payload subtracted from GVWR

8. Why might a crew cab short bed have less payload capacity than a regular cab long bed?

- A) Shorter bed
- B) Smaller wheels
- C) Heavier cab and trim level
- D) Lower suspension rating

9. Which of the following pickup truck types generally offers the highest payload capacity?

- A) Half-ton gas
- B) Three-quarter ton diesel
- C) One-ton single rear wheel diesel
- D) One-ton dual rear wheel gas

10. Why is it important to account for passengers and gear in payload calculations?

- A) They affect fuel economy
- B) They increase total towing capacity
- C) They contribute to the total weight
- D) They increase tire wear

11. Which of the following are key benefits of a long bed truck for truck campers?

- A) Easier maneuvering and better turning radius
- B) Higher payload capacity and more camper floor plan and model options
- C) Better off-road capability and camper fitment
- D) Lower insurance rates and overall cost of ownership

12. Why are non-slide campers preferred over slide-out models by some hard side truck camper enthusiasts?

- A) Lower weight and fewer mechanical systems
- B) Larger holding tanks and battery storage capability
- C) Bigger windows and better insulation
- D) More interior cabover room

13. When does a truck camper's weight exceed the manufacturer's published weight?

- A) When camping at high altitude
- B) When options, aftermarket accessories, and cargo are added
- C) When the camper is off the truck
- D) When the mattress, windows, and appliances are removed

14. Which part of the truck is not going to degrade if overloaded with a camper?

- A) Engine
- B) Rear suspension
- C) Front brakes
- D) Windshield wipers

15. When matching a truck and camper, what is one reason why it's recommended to choose the camper first?

- A) Campers are more expensive than trucks
- B) It's often easier to find a truck to match a camper than vice versa
- C) Camper models are limited
- D) Trucks have standardized payload capacities

16. What is the primary reason for weighing your fully loaded truck and camper combination?

- A) To determine fuel efficiency
- B) To ensure compliance with payload, GVWR, and GAWR limits
- C) To estimate resale value
- D) To adjust tire pressure

17. What does GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating) represent?

- A) The weight of the truck alone
- B) The maximum allowable weight of the truck and all its contents
- C) The weight of the camper alone
- D) The towing capacity of the truck

18. How can aftermarket accessories affect your truck's payload capacity?

- A) They have no impact
- B) They can increase payload capacity
- C) They add weight, reducing available payload
- D) They improve fuel efficiency

19. What is the weight of a gallon of water, which must be considered in payload calculations?

- A) 5.5 pounds
- B) 6 pounds
- C) 8.34 pounds
- D) 10 pounds

20. What are the potential effects of operating a truck beyond its rated payload capacity?

- A) Improves stability
- B) Has no effect
- C) Reduced handling performance and longer stopping distances
- D) Enhances fuel efficiency

21. Suspension enhancements are designed to improve handling, but do they increase a truck's legal payload capacity?

- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Only with manufacturer approval
- D) Depends on the product

22. For trucks that don't come standard with a sway bar, what is a common benefit of installing a sway bar on a truck carrying a camper?

- A) Increased payload capacity
- B) Reduced side-to-side body roll
- C) Improved fuel economy
- D) Enhanced acceleration

23. What is a wet bath in a truck camper?

- A) A bathroom with separate shower and toilet areas
- B) A bathroom with a combined shower and toilet area
- C) An outdoor shower setup
- D) A bathroom without a sink

24. How does a dually (dual rear wheel) truck benefit camper hauling?

- A) Decreased payload capacity
- B) Improved stability and higher payload capacity
- C) Reduced traction
- D) Increased turning radius

25. What does a typical 30-gallon water tank weigh when full? Answers are rounded to the nearest tenth.

- A) Approximately 180 lbs
- B) Approximately 75 lbs
- C) Approximately 250 lbs
- D) Approximately 100 lbs

26. What is the purpose of airbags in a camper setup?

- A) Replace leaf springs
- B) Help level the truck under load
- C) Increase GVWR
- D) Support sway bars

27. What's the legal maximum height for an RV or camper in the US and Canada?

- A) 12 feet 6 inches (6.4 meters)
- B) 13 feet 6 inches (4.2 meters)
- C) 14 feet (4.3 meters)
- D) 16 feet 2 inches (4.9 meters)

28. What's the downside of ignoring rear sag?

- A) Cosmetic only
- B) Uneven tire wear and unsafe handling
- C) Reduced engine power
- D) Affects 4WD engagement

29. What does DRW stand for?

- A) Direct Rear Weight
- B) Dual Rear Wheel
- C) Diesel Ready Weight
- D) Double Reinforced Wheel

30. When truck camping, what does "boondocking" refer to?

- A) Camping on pavement
- B) Camping off-grid with no hookups
- C) Using generators
- D) Towing without braking

31. Which 12-volt system requires the most power in a camper?

- A) Water pump
- B) Compressor refrigerator
- C) Electric jacks
- D) Roof fan vent

32. What are the benefits of lithium batteries in campers?

- A) Cheaper than lead-acid and AGM
- B) Safer in high heat and freezing temps
- C) Higher usable amp-hour capacity and lighter weight
- D) Built into solar panels and roof racks

33. Which insulation type is most common in truck campers?

- A) Spray foam
- B) Fiberglass batts
- C) Closed-cell foam board
- D) Bubble wrap

34. What causes condensation buildup inside campers?

- A) Too much insulation
- B) Interior humidity and cold surfaces
- C) Open windows
- D) Airflow from vents

35. What's the function of an enclosed and heated basement in a 4-season truck camper?

- A) Adds extra sleeping space
- B) Stores extra propane
- C) Protects water tanks and plumbing from freezing
- D) Improves tire clearance

36. What is a risk of using a camper's plumbing system in freezing conditions without freeze protection?

- A) Cracked or busted water pump
- B) Cracked or busted water lines
- C) Cracked or busted toilet valve, outside shower, and dump valves
- D) All of the above

37. Which is true of a cassette toilet compared to a black tank system?

- A) Requires a permanent dump station
- B) Has a larger capacity
- C) Able to dump into a standard toilet
- D) More expensive

38. What's the purpose of rubber bed mats under truck campers?

- A) Reduce rattling noise
- B) Prevents the camper from sliding and reduces abrasion
- C) Trap heat in the bed
- D) Add weight for traction

39. What is shore power?

- A) Charging from solar
- B) Drawing power from your truck alternator
- C) Plugging into household or campground 120-volt AC power
- D) 12V DC from camper battery

40. What is a charge controller used for?

- A) Managing propane use
- B) Regulating solar panel input to batteries
- C) Controlling shore power flow
- D) Boosting alternator output

41. What is a battery isolator used for?

- A) Separates truck and camper batteries while dry camping
- B) Connects propane sensors
- C) Grounds the inverter
- D) Turns off the solar from charging the batteries

42. What is the ideal method to store a camper long-term off the truck?

- A) Hanging from garage rafters
- B) On a slope
- C) On its jacks only
- D) On camper stands or blocks with jacks down

43. What's the legal maximum width for an RV or camper in the US and Canada?

- A) 80 inches (2 meters)
- B) 96 inches (2.4 meters)
- C) 102 inches (2.6 meters)
- D) 106 inches (2.7 meters)

44. What's the benefit of using a weight scale (like a CAT scale) for your truck camper setup?

- A) Tune your shocks
- B) Ensure you are within axle and total weight limits
- C) Check MPG
- D) Adjust tire tread

45. What maintenance step helps avoid camper roof leaks?

- A) Clean black tank
- B) Apply RV wax
- C) Inspect and reseal roof seams annually
- D) Leave it alone

46. What system is most likely to drain a battery fastest when dry camping?

- A) Lights
- B) 12-volt compressor refrigerator
- C) Furnace fan
- D) Water pump

Bonus: According to Truck Camper Magazine, what's the best truck camper?

- A) The one that costs the most
- B) The most popular brand
- C) The one that fits your needs and matches your truck
- D) The one you find on a top 10 list