

Weight limits

Your van has a 'design gross weight'. This is the maximum weight your vehicle can weigh when it's loaded. It's sometimes called the 'gross vehicle weight' or 'laden weight'.

This weight limit is on the vehicle identification number (VIN) plate in your van.

The design gross weight is the total combined weight of:

- vehicle
- driver (and any passengers)
- fuel
- the load and anything the van is carrying

It's important not to overload your vehicle or its individual axles as it will affect:

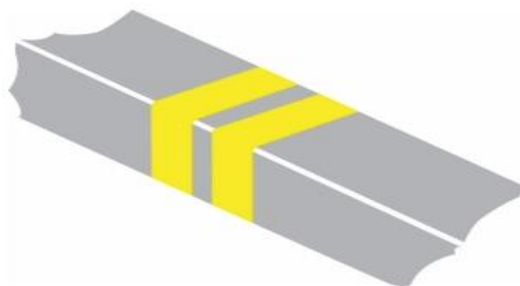
- its performance
- your safety

You can check your vehicle's weight at a [local weighbridge](#).

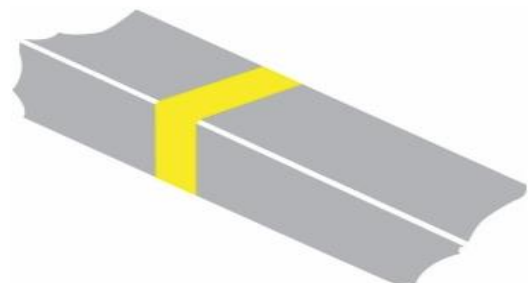
Watch a video about loading your van.

Parking

Yellow vertical lines on the kerb show where you're not allowed to load, or if any restrictions apply. If there are restrictions, these will be displayed on a plated sign.



No loading or unloading at any time



No loading or unloading at the times shown

Some roads have loading bay facilities. These will be shown as a white box marked 'loading' and a plated sign to give details of any specific restrictions

Speed limits

Vans have lower speed limits than cars and car-type vans.

Type of van	Built up area*	Single carriageway	Dual carriageway	Motorway
Van	30 mph	50 mph	60 mph	70 mph
Car-type van	30 mph	60 mph	70 mph	70 mph
Van and trailer	30 mph	50 mph	60 mph	60 mph

*The 30 mph limit usually applies to all traffic on all roads with street lighting unless signs show otherwise.

Find out more about [speed limits](#).

Fines and penalties

You can be fined up to £1,000 (£2,500 for motorway offences) and get 3 to 6 penalty points for speeding.

Secure your goods

Some vans don't have a bulkhead and in the event of an accident, the contents of your cargo area could end up in the cab.

Load your goods evenly throughout the cargo area, with the heaviest items at the bottom, and do not overload the individual axles. Use appropriate restraints to secure your load, like netting and straps.

Outside the UK

If you travel outside of the UK, you'll need to use the domestic rules for the countries you're visiting. You can get this information from the [relevant embassies](#).

You must follow the [EU rules](#) if you're towing a trailer and the combined design gross weight is above 3.5 tonnes, but there are exemptions.