

# Chapter 204-44 WAC

## STANDARDS FOR LOAD FASTENING DEVICES

### WAC

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**WAC 204-44-010 Promulgation.** Under authority of RCW 46.37.005 and 46.37.490, the state patrol hereby adopts the following rules pertaining to the use of safety chains or other devices on vehicles to secure and protect the loads thereon.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005, 90-06-055, § 204-44-010, filed 3/5/90, effective 4/5/90; Order 7303, § 204-44-010, filed 12/19/73.]

**WAC 204-44-020 Load fastening devices.** [(1)] Any motor truck, truck tractor, trailer, semi-trailer, or any combination thereof, transporting logs upon a public highway where binder devices are required, shall have the load thereon securely fastened and protected [as follows:]

(a) Placement and number of wrappers required on log trucks using stakes.

(i) In the hauling of one log loads, one wrapper chain or cable shall be required and it shall be secured to the rear bunk and the log shall be properly blocked or secured in a manner which will prevent it from rolling or shifting. An additional wrapper, secured to the front bunk, is optional.

(ii) In the hauling of two log loads, not less than two wrapper chains or cables shall be used to secure the load. The logs shall be properly blocked to prevent them from rolling or shifting.

(iii) On loads consisting of three or four logs not over 44 feet in length, the load shall be secured by not less than two properly spaced wrapper chains or cables. Ends of short logs not secured by such wrappers shall be secured with extra wrappers. If any log is over 44 feet in length, the load shall be secured by not less than three properly spaced wrappers.

(iv) Loads consisting of five or more logs, when the logs are all 17 feet or less in length, shall be secured by not less than two properly spaced wrappers. Load consisting of five or more logs, when any log is over 17 feet in length, shall be secured by not less than three properly spaced wrappers.

(b) Placement and number of wrappers required on log trucks using chock blocks.

(i) In the hauling of one log load, one wrapper chain or cable shall be required and secured to the rear bunk and the log shall be properly blocked in a manner to prevent it from rolling or shifting.

(ii) One additional wrapper chain or cable shall be required on log trucks using chock blocks over and above the requirements in subdivisions (a)(iii) and (iv) of this section.

(c) Placement and number of wrappers required on crosswise loaded trucks, trailers, etc. In the case of short logs loaded crosswise, the following method of securing the load shall be used if the truck trailer is not provided with solid

ends of a height sufficient to prevent any log in the load from rolling off: Not less than two chock blocks shall be used at each open end of the vehicle and the load shall be held with at least two wrapper chains or cables. The wrappers shall be firmly attached to the end of the truck or trailer. Rigid standards or stakes may be used in lieu of chock blocks but each such standard or stake shall be either rigidly connected to the bed of the truck or trailer or shall be placed in a tight fitting socket at least 12 inches in depth. Other means furnishing equivalent security may be acceptable.

(d) Wrapper placement. When two wrappers are required, they shall be applied within six feet of the front and rear bunks. When more than two wrappers are required, the front and back binder shall be applied within six feet of the front and rear bunks.

(e) Short logs. To properly secure short logs, binders shall be placed near the end, not less than 12 inches from the end of the log.

(f) Log on top or in outside saddle. No log loaded on top or in outside saddles of a load shall be transported unless secured by not less than two wrapper chains or cables, one of which shall be placed near each end of such log.

(g) Fasten in place. All wrappers and binders shall be fastened in place prior to tightening to prevent the displacement of logs on the top of the load.

(h) Surround load. All wrapper chains or cables, except in the case of one log loads, shall entirely surround the load. This does not apply to gut-wrappers.

(i) Gut-wrappers. Gut-wrappers, when used, shall be adjusted so as to be tightened by, but not carry the weight of the logs above them.

(j) Wrappers and binders to be placed before leaving immediate loading area. Wrappers and binders shall be placed and tightened around the completed load before the truck leaves the immediate loading area.

(k) Construction of wrappers and binders. Wrapper chains or cables, binders, fasteners, or attachments thereof, used for any purpose as required by these standards, shall have a minimum breaking strength of not less than 15,000 pounds and shall be rigged so that it can be safely released.

(l) Bundle straps or banding. For the purposes of this standard, applied bundle straps or banding are not acceptable as wrappers and binders.

(m) Loose ends secured. All loose ends of wrapper chains or cables shall be securely fastened so as to prevent their swinging free in a manner that will create a hazard.

(n) Trucks in sorting yards. Trucks and trailers used around sorting yards, etc., which travel as [at] slow speeds, will not be required to use wrappers providing all logs are contained by and lie below the height of the stakes and there are no persons on the ground exposed to such traffic.

(o) Binder hook design. Binders for securing wrappers on logging trucks shall be fitted with hooks of proper size and design for the wrapper chain being used.

(p) Defective wrappers. Wrappers shall be removed from service when any of the following conditions exist:

- (i) Excessively worn links on chains;
- (ii) Deformed or stretched chain links;
- (iii) Cracked chain links;

(iv) Frayed, stranded, knotted, or otherwise defective wire rope.

(q) Binder extensions. Pipe extension handles (swedes) for tightening or securing binders shall be limited to not longer than 36 inches. Care shall be taken that a sufficient amount of the pipe extends over the binder handle.

(r) Defective binders. Defective binders shall be immediately removed from service.

Note: See Figures I and II [codified as WAC 204-44-02001] for illustrations of placement and number of wrappers.

(2) Any motor truck, truck tractor, trailer, semi-trailer, or any combination thereof, transporting any load other than logs, upon a public highway where binder devices are required, shall have the load thereon securely fastened and protected by at least two load binders sufficiently strong to withstand all possible strains. The load securing devices shall have a breaking strength of at least 15,000 pounds. Exception: Binders used to secure baled hay and baled straw shall have a breaking strength of not less than 9,000 pounds.

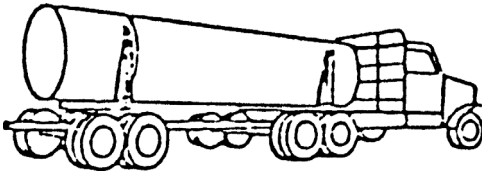
[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005, 46.37.010, and 46.37.490. 78-10-100 (Order 7303B), § 204-44-020, filed 10/3/78; Order 7606, § 204-44-020, filed 2/24/76; Order 7303, § 204-44-020, filed 12/19/73.]

Reviser's note: RCW 34.05.395 requires the use of underlining and deletion marks to indicate amendments to existing rules, and deems ineffectual changes not filed by the agency in this manner. The bracketed material in the above section does not appear to conform to the statutory requirement.

**WAC 204-44-02001 Diagrams I and II—Placement and number of wrappers.**

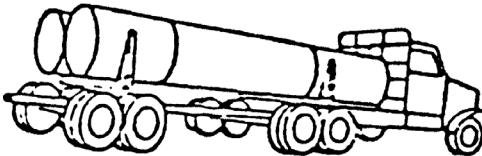
**ONE LOG LOAD**

One wrapper required which shall be secured to the rear bunk. Log shall be blocked or secured in a manner to prevent it from rolling or shifting. A second wrapper secured to the front bunk is optional.



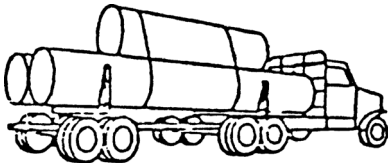
**TWO LOG LOAD**

A minimum of two wrappers required. Logs shall be blocked to prevent them from rolling or shifting.



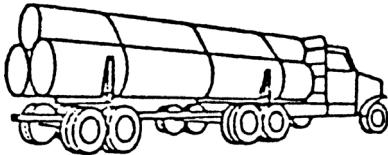
**THREE OR FOUR LOG LOAD FORTY-FOUR FEET OR LESS**

A minimum of two wrappers required.



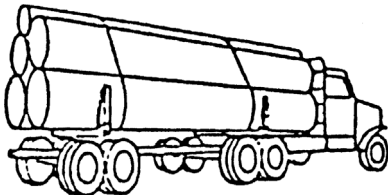
**THREE OR FOUR LOG LOADS MORE THAN FORTY-FOUR FEET**

A minimum of three wrappers required.



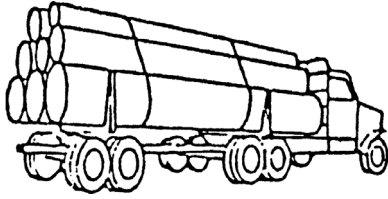
**FIVE OR SIX LOG LOAD  
ALL LOGS SEVENTEEN FEET OR LESS**

A minimum of two wrappers required.

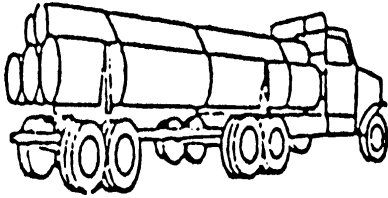


**SEVEN OR MORE LOG LOAD  
ALL SEVENTEEN FEET OR LESS**

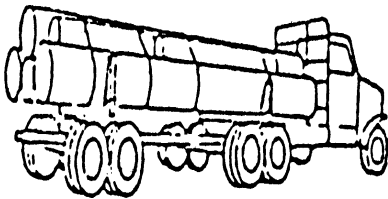
A minimum of two wrappers required.



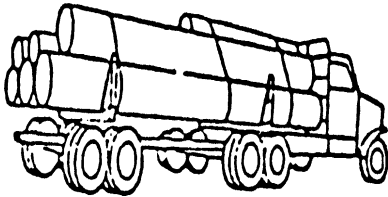
FIVE OR MORE LOG LOAD  
IF ANY LOGS ARE MORE THAN SEVENTEEN FEET  
A minimum of three wrappers required.



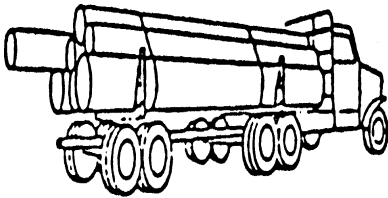
OUTSIDE LOGS OR TOP LOGS  
All outside or top logs shall be secured by a wrapper near but not within 12 inches of each end.



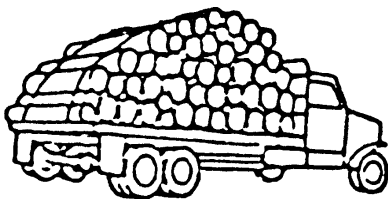
A WRAPPER SHALL BE NEAR EACH BUNK  
Each load shall be secured by having a wrapper within 6 feet of each bunk except on one log loads.



PROPER SUPPORT FOR LOGS  
Not more than approximately one-third the weight of any log shall extend beyond the end of the logs or bunk supporting it.



SHORT LOGS LOADED CROSSWISE  
A minimum of two wrappers are required and two chocks or stakes shall be used on the open end of the truck.



Note: All loads of logs on logging trucks equipped with chock blocks instead of stakes, shall have at least one additional wrapper over and above the requirements for trucks equipped with stakes, excepting on one and two log loads and trucks with short logs loaded crosswise.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005, 46.37.010, and 46.37.490. 78-10-100 (Order 7303B), (codified as WAC 204-44-02001), filed 10/3/78.]

2. Steel cable.
3. Steel strapping.
4. Fiber webbing.

**WAC 204-44-030 Approval of load fastening devices.**

The types of binder devices listed below are hereby approved by the state patrol, provided that they have a minimum breaking strength of at least 15,000 pounds, or meet or exceed federal standards contained in CFR 393.102:

1. Steel chain.

(5/6/93)

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005. 90-06-055, § 204-44-030, filed 3/5/90, effective 4/5/90; Order 7303, § 204-44-030, filed 12/19/73.]

**WAC 204-44-040 Securing pole trailers while in transit.** Any empty pole trailer loaded upon any truck-tractor (except pole trailers that straddle the truck-tractor bunks)

shall be fastened to the truck-tractor by not less than one 5/16" grade seven or better chain and one tensioning or locking device in such a manner as to prevent it from falling or shifting while in transit. The chain shall be securely fastened between the forward point on the reach tunnel and a point on the truck-tractor frame or from either axle of the pole trailer to a point directly below the truck-tractor frame or cross-member.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005, 93-11-017, § 204-44-040, filed 5/6/93, effective 6/6/93.]