

WHEEL NUT TORQUE

Proper wheel nut torque is essential to safe and dependable trailering. The wheel and axle systems used in RVs are similar in many ways to those used in cars and trucks, but they differ in several important ways. These differences require special attention to wheel nut torque both while the trailer is new and throughout the trailer's life

Trailer wheels must carry much higher loads per wheel than passenger car or truck wheels. Furthermore, wheels on tandem axle trailers do not steer, and are subjected to very high side load stress whenever the trailer makes a tight turn. When you go around corners – especially slow, tight ones – the wheels on your trailer are subjected to these strong side loads. This tends to flex the wheel and gradually loosen the wheel nuts. Although the materials and manufacturing methods are maximized for this kind of service, these extra load stresses and flexing can cause loosening.

It is critical that the wheels be properly torqued at the start of the trip and every 50 miles for the first 500 miles of road operation. Although the wheels have been properly torqued before leaving the manufacturing plant, settling and wearing in of components during the first few miles of operation may cause some loosening of the wheel nuts.

The wheel nut torque is 120 ft-lbs. Always use an accurate torque wrench to tighten wheel nuts. A torque wrench with adequate accuracy is available at most automotive tool stores. Considering the overall investment in the trailer, this is a very reasonable cost. Use of a torque wrench can also reduce the effort required to tighten the wheel nuts.

at low speeds, a wheel lug nut may have come loose. This problem is usually caused by improper tightening or by faulty or damaged lug bolt threads. If you have reason to believe a lug nut has come loose, **SAFELY STOP THE VEHICLE AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.** Put up warning devices. Remove the lug caps and check the tightness of all the lug nuts.

Tighten all lug nuts to the specified torque of 120 ft-lbs. If lug bolt threads are damaged or faulty, get professional service help. Do NOT tow the trailer with missing lug nuts or faulty lug bolts.

WARNING

DO NOT USE A SIZE AND TYPE OF TIRE AND WHEEL OTHER THAN THAT ORIGINALLY PROVIDED BY HEARTLAND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, LLC BECAUSE IT CAN AFFECT THE SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE OF YOUR VEHICLE, WHICH COULD RESULT IN AN INCREASED RISK OF LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL, VEHICLE ROLLOVER AND/OR SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH. THE INSTALLATION OF INCORRECT WHEELS COULD CAUSE WHEEL SEPARATION WHICH COULD RESULT IN PROPERTY DAMAGE, SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY, OR LOSS OF LIFE.

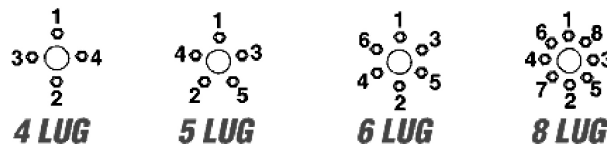
1. Clean mounting surfaces, lug nuts & studs. Do not lube lug joint unless instructed in your owner's manual.
2. Start all lug nuts by hand to prevent cross threading.
3. Tighten nuts in sequence shown below using a calibrated torque wrench. Do not use an impact wrench. Wheel nut torque requirements vary depending on the size and manufacturer. Always use wheel manufacturer's recommendations
4. Wheel nuts should be torqued before first road use and after each wheel removal. Periodically check and re-torque per manufacturer's recommendations.

WARNING

IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN PROPER TORQUE TO PROVIDE SAFE AND SECURE ATTACHMENT OF THE WHEEL TO THE HUB/DRUM. BE SURE TO USE WHEEL NUTS THAT ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE COIN IN THE WHEEL. IMPROPERLY TORQUED WHEEL NUTS CAN CAUSE THE WHEEL TO SEPARATE FROM THE WHEEL MOUNTING SURFACE DURING OPERATION. THIS COULD RESULT IN PROPERTY DAMAGE, SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY, OR LOSS OF LIFE.

Any time a wheel is replaced, be sure to tighten the wheel nuts, following the sequence shown in the diagram to the specified torque. If the wheel was replaced, check the torque again at every 50 miles for the first 500 miles and prior to each trip thereafter. If you notice wheel wobbling or hear a rattling sound coming from a wheel, especially

Tighten Lug Nuts in a Criss-Cross Pattern for Best Equal Torque Distribution.



WARNING

DO NOT TOW THE TRAILER WITH MISSING LUG NUTS OR FAULTY LUG BOLTS