

11.7 Brake Checks

Correct Brake checks are a must!

Detailed, Step by Step instructions follow.

NOTE: Failure to correctly perform all components of the hydraulic or air brake check will result in an automatic failure of the vehicle inspection test.

STEP ONE (ALL VEHICLES) PARKING BRAKE TEST:

Straight Truck and Buses with Air Brakes: With the parking brake engaged check that parking brake will hold vehicle by **gently** trying to pull forward with parking brake on.



Combination Vehicles with Air Brakes: Step One:

With the truck/tractor parking brake engaged and the trailer brake (Tractor Protection Valve) released, check that the truck/tractor parking brake will hold vehicle by **gently** trying to pull forward.



Combination Vehicles with Air Brakes: Step Two:

With the trailer brake (Tractor Protection Valve) engaged and the truck/tractor parking brake released, check that the trailer brake will hold the vehicle by **gently** trying to pull forward.



HYDRAULIC BRAKE VEHICLES:

All Vehicles: With the parking brake engaged check that parking brake will hold vehicle by **gently** trying to pull forward with parking brake on.



STEP TWO (ALL VEHICLES) Service Brake Test

Release the parking
brake
(or brakes)



(air or hydraulic)

Pull forward at
approximately 5 mph,
and apply service brake.
Check to see that brakes
are working properly
and to see if the vehicle
pulls to one side or the
other.



STEP THREE: (HYDRAULIC BRAKE VEHICLES)

Pump the brake pedal 3
times and hold it down for 5
seconds. The brake pedal
should not move (depress)
during the 5 seconds.



If equipped with a hydraulic
brake reserve (backup)
system, with the key off,
depress the brake pedal and
listen for the sound of the
reserve system electric
motor.

Check that the warning buzzer
or light is off.



STEP THREE: AIR BRAKE VEHICLES

(3 PARTS) Air Leak Check: Part One of Three

With the engine running,
build the air pressure up
to the governed cut-out
of 120-140 psi
(operational level).



Shut the engine off,
chock wheels if
necessary, and turn the
ignition key back to the
“ON” or “battery charge”
position



Release the Tractor
Protection Valve and
Parking brakes by
pushing both valves in *
see note below



Fully apply the foot brake
and hold it steady for one
(1) minute.



Check the air gauge to
see if the air pressure
drops.



Air drop cannot exceed:

Single Vehicle:

- 3 pounds in 1 minute.

Combination Vehicle:

- 4 pounds in 1 minute.

Special Note: If the loss of air exceeds the above
amounts, there is a defect somewhere in the
system.