

# 18-Wheeler

By: Lakien Veach



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Most vehicles you see mostly have 4 wheels. I want to talk to you about something a way more and better than what them old cars have. I am going to be talking about my favorite type of vehicle they are called 18-wheelers.



Peterbilts are the the ones who get better gas mileage than most of the others. There is one called a Freightliner but I will get into detail about them later on. Peterbilts Motors Company founded in 1939 in Oakland California is an American manufacture of medium and heavy duty class 8 trucks.





It operates manufacturing facilities and has its headquarters in Denton Texas. Peterbilts made numbers traditionally started with a "2" for a single driver rear axle tag axle model and with a "3" for a dual drive rear axle model from 1939 until an according to "Peterbilt Motors".



There are many other different brands of semis. For instance Kenworth, Freightliner etc. etc. The main one I want to talk about is Freightliner. Freightliners according to [Freightlinertrucks.com](http://Freightlinertrucks.com) there trucks are a manufactured and a divison is known mainly for the heavy duty class 8 diesel trucks.





It offers as well as well as class 5-7 trucks. By 2001 the company was awash in used trucks it could not sell due to questionable business decisions made by "Jim Hebe". One third of all semis trucks that are operating in the United States are registered in California, Florida, and Texas.



An Average of 140 billion miles a year in the United States are divided by semi trucks. Agricultural area building materials are the two leading goods in regard to weight transported. The terms "semi" and "semi trucks" come about because the trailers are called semi trailers.





Since they have no front wheels and are depended upon connecting to a truck Trailers are automatically locked when standing alone. The pressure from the truck air pump releases the trailer brakes when it is connected.



Freightliners i'd the highest selling brand of trucks. They account for about one-third of all new semis sold each year. Most diesel engines need to put out 1200 lb ft of torque to keep a fully loaded semi and moving.



Since 1997 antilock brake have required on semi trucks. This has reduced the number of jackknifing crashes signniffally. Currently the most dangerous accidents involving semis is roll overs. Out of all the commercial trucks only make-up 15% of them.



However they traveled 42% of all miles traveled by commercial truck. So you probably already know that it takes two football fields to slow these babies down. Well the 18-wheelers not the road trains. I'm not doing anymore math today!



*Jim Bryant Photo*





What you might not realize is it takes longer if you're hauling on a smooth road. No resistance equal longer break time. Trailers are typically 53ft long. They have brakes that are automatically applied. When the truck is standing unattached to the trailer.



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