

MOTORHOME[®]

2002 DINGHY TOW GUIDE

Every year, MOTORHOME compiles a list of vehicles that can be towed four-down behind a motorhome with no modifications required. As usual, this year's guide contains only those vehicles that have been approved by their manufacturers for towing, and we've left out any vehicles that have towing speed limits slower than 55 mph, or distance limits of less than 200 miles.

In this introduction, we're highlighting manufacturers that have performed significant revisions to their existing models, or have introduced new models.

Because of past confusion, it's important to note there are many towable vehicles that may not appear on this list. The reasons are many; some manufacturers don't want any liability or warranty problems that may arise from dinghy towing one of their vehicles, while others have never conducted research to see if, in fact, their vehicles can be towed, and find it easier just to say they can't be. One manufacturer "officially" recommends just one of its vehicles for towing, but tells its dealer network and all of its customers that virtually all of its models can be towed.

Moreover, many vehicles can be towed if small modifications are effected to prevent rotation of drivetrain components, or if transmission lubrication pumps are employed. Suitable products are available at Camping World and other RV-accessory outlets.

When in doubt about the towability of the vehicle you are about to buy, consult the vehicle owner's manual; don't just take someone's word for it.

COMPILED BY CHRIS HEMER

2002 DINGHY TOW GUIDE

TOWABLE CARS

| Model | Base Curb Weight (lb) | Speed/Distance Limits | Manual Trans | Automatic Trans | Mileage City/Hwy | Base Retail |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| CHEVROLET | | | | | | |
| Cavalier Coupe | 2,617 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | 22/33 | \$13,860 |
| Cavalier Sedan | 2,676 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | 24/32 | \$13,960 |
| Malibu | 3,053 | 65/None | NA | Yes | 20/30 | \$17,535 |
| Malibu LS | 3,080 | 65/None | NA | Yes | 20/30 | \$19,740 |
| DAIMLERCHRYSLER | | | | | | |
| Neon 4Dr | 2,590 | None | Yes | No | 27/33 | \$12,240 |
| PT Cruiser | 3,108 | None | Yes | No | 21/28 | \$16,200 |
| Sebring Coupe | 3,183 | None | Yes | No | 20/29 | \$20,020 |
| Stratus Coupe | 3,051 | None | Yes | No | 22/29 | \$17,920 |
| FORD | | | | | | |
| Escort ZX2 | 3,085 | None | Yes | No | 25/33 | \$12,050 |
| Focus | 2,551 | None | Yes | No | 25/35 | \$12,125 |
| HYUNDAI | | | | | | |
| Accent | 2,255 | Legal/None | Yes | No | 27/37 | \$8,999 |
| Elantra | 2,635 | Legal/None | Yes | No | 25/33 | \$12,499 |
| Sonata | 3,181 | Legal/None | Yes | No | 22/30 | \$15,499 |
| Tiburon | 2,633 | Legal/None | Yes | No | 23/31 | \$14,499 |
| INFINITI | | | | | | |
| G20 | 2,923 | 60/500* | Yes | No | 24/31 | \$21,395 |
| * Start engine to recirculate transmission fluids when this limit is reached. | | | | | | |
| MITSUBISHI | | | | | | |
| Eclipse | 2,855 | None | Yes | No | 23/31 | \$18,087 |
| Lancer | 2,646 | None | Yes | No | 26/33 | \$13,897 |
| Mirage Coupe | 2,183 | None | Yes | No | 33/40 | \$11,937 |
| Spyder | 3,042 | None | Yes | No | 22/30 | \$23,617 |
| NISSAN | | | | | | |
| Altima 2.5 | 2,999 | 70/500* | Yes | No | 23/29 | \$16,349 |
| Maxima SE | 3,224 | 70/500* | Yes | No | 21/28 | \$25,449 |
| Sentra XE | 2,519 | 70/500* | Yes | No | 27/35 | \$11,799 |
| * Start engine to recirculate transmission fluids when this limit is reached. | | | | | | |

2002 DINGHY TOW GUIDE

TOWABLE CARS

| Model | Base Curb Weight (lb) | Speed/Distance Limits | Manual Trans | Automatic Trans | Mileage City/Hwy | Base Retail |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| OLDSMOBILE | | | | | | |
| Alero GX | 2,946 (coupe) | 65/None | Yes | Yes | Man: 25/33 Auto: 24/32 | \$17,470 |
| PONTIAC | | | | | | |
| GrandAm | 3,066 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | Man: 25/33 Auto: 24/32 | \$16,800 |
| Sunfire | 2,606 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | 24/34 | \$14,540 |
| SATURN | | | | | | |
| L-Series | 2,948 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | Man: 25/33 Auto: 24/33 | \$16,295 |
| S-Series SL | 2,341 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | Man: 29/40 Auto: 27/37 | \$10,570 |
| S-Series SC | 2,366 | 65/None | Yes | Yes | Man: 28/40 Auto: 27/38 | \$12,765 |
| SUBARU | | | | | | |
| Impreza 2.5 RS Sedan | 2,965 | None | Yes | No | 20/28 | \$18,995 |
| Impreza 2.5 TS Wagon | 3,045 | None | Yes | No | 21/27 | \$17,495 |
| Impreza WRX | 3,085 | None | Yes | No | 20/28 | \$23,995 |
| Legacy L | 3,255 | None | Yes | No | 21/27 | \$19,295 |
| Legacy L Wagon | 3,345 | None | Yes | No | 21/27 | \$19,295 |
| Outback Sport | 3,050 | None | Yes | No | 20/28 | \$18,695 |
| TOYOTA | | | | | | |
| Camry LE | 3,086 | None | Yes | No | 24/33 | \$18,970 |
| Corolla | 2,405 | None | Yes | No | 32/41 | \$12,568 |
| Celica GT | 2,460 | None | Yes | No | 28/33 | \$17,085 |
| Celica GT-S | 2,500 | None | Yes | No | 23/32 | \$21,555 |
| Echo 2DR | 2,035 | None | Yes | No | 34/41 | \$9,995 |
| Echo 4DR | 2,055 | None | Yes | No | 34/41 | \$10,585 |

2002 DINGHY TOW GUIDE

TOWABLE SPORT-UTILITY VEHICLES & PICKUPS

| Model | Base Curb Weight (lb) | Speed/Distance Limits | Manual Trans | Automatic Trans | Mileage City/Hwy | Base Retail |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| ACURA | | | | | | |
| MDX | 4,328 | 65/None* | NA | Yes | 17/23 | \$34,700 |

* Follow prescribed automatic transmission recirculation procedure after every eight hours of towing.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|-------|-------|----------|
| CHEVY/GMC | | | | | | |
| Avalanche 4WD | 5,678 | None | N/A | Yes | 13/17 | \$33,245 |
| Blazer 2DR 4WD | 3,848 | None | Yes (a)* | Yes | 15/18 | \$22,295 |
| Blazer 4DR 4WD | 4,049 | None | N/A | Yes* | 16/20 | \$25,530 |
| Silverado/Sierra | | | | | | |
| 1500 Series 4WD | 4,246 | None | Yes** | Yes** | 15/20 | \$18,945 |
| Tahoe/Yukon 4WD | 5,050 | None | N/A | Yes** | 14/17 | \$35,255 |
| Suburban/Yukon XL 4WD | 5,219 | None | N/A | Yes** | 14/16 | \$37,989 |
| Tracker 2DR 4WD | 2,811 | 55/200*** | Yes | Yes | 25/27 | \$16,555 |
| Tracker 4DR 4WD | 2,987 | 55/200*** | Yes | Yes | 22/25 | \$17,155 |
| Trailblazer/Envoy 4WD | 4,600 | None | NA | Yes | 15/21 | \$25,305 |

(a) Available in Blazer Xtreme package only.

* Transfer case must be in neutral.

** Transfer case must be in neutral, ignition in the "off" position and the fuse removed.

*** After 200 miles, the transfer case oil must be circulated for one minute before continuing.

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|------|-----|-----|-------|----------|
| DODGE | | | | | | |
| Dakota 4WD | 3,909 | None | Yes | Yes | 15/20 | \$18,405 |
| Durango 4WD | 4,629 | None | NA | Yes | 13/18 | \$26,995 |
| Ram 4WD | 4,718 | None | Yes | Yes | 13/17 | \$21,785 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------|-----|------|-------|----------|
| FORD | | | | | | |
| Escape 2WD | 2,991 | 55/None | Yes | No | 23/28 | \$18,415 |
| Escape 4WD | 3,133 | 55/None | Yes | No | 22/27 | \$20,040 |
| Explorer 4DR 2WD | 4,094 | 55/None | Yes | No | 16/22 | \$24,335 |
| Explorer 4DR 4WD | 4,104 | 55/None | Yes | Yes* | 15/20 | \$26,215 |
| Explorer Sport 2WD | 3,754 | 55/None | Yes | No | 17/21 | \$21,220 |
| Explorer Sport 4WD | 3,962 | 55/None | Yes | No | 16/20 | \$24,240 |
| Explorer Sport Trac 2WD | 4,091 | 55/None | Yes | No | 16/21 | \$22,120 |
| Explorer Sport Trac 4WD | 4,310 | 55/None | Yes | No | 15/20 | \$25,490 |
| Ranger | 3,085 | 55/None | Yes | No | 22/26 | \$12,265 |
| Ranger 4WD | 3,411 | 55/None | Yes | No | 17/20 | \$18,980 |

* With dealer-installed Neutral Tow Kit (part #1L2J7H332-AA).

2002 DINGHY TOW GUIDE

TOWABLE SPORT-UTILITY VEHICLES & PICKUPS

| Model | Base Curb Weight (lb) | Speed/Distance Limits | Manual Trans | Automatic Trans | Mileage City/Hwy | Base Retail |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| HONDA | | | | | | |
| CR-V | 3,201 | Legal/None | Yes | Yes* | 22/26 | \$18,800 |
| * Only with prescribed towing procedure. | | | | | | |
| HYUNDAI | | | | | | |
| Santa Fe 2WD | 3,494 | Legal/None | Yes | No | 21/28 | \$17,199 |
| JEEP | | | | | | |
| Grand Cherokee | 3,972 | None | Yes | Yes | 16/21 | \$29,855 |
| Liberty 4WD | 3,826 | None | Yes | Yes | 19/23 | \$16,450 |
| Wrangler 4WD | 3,105 | None | Yes | Yes | 18/20 | \$15,475 |
| KIA | | | | | | |
| Sportage 2WD | 3,186 | 55/400* | Yes | No | 20/27 | \$15,295 |
| Sportage 4WD | 3,352 | 55/400* | Yes | No | 20/22 | \$16,795 |
| * Stop every 400 miles, start engine and let idle for a few minutes to ensure that transmission is sufficiently lubricated. | | | | | | |
| LAND ROVER | | | | | | |
| Discovery Series II | 4,576 | None | Yes | Yes | 13/17 | \$34,150 |
| Range Rover HSE | 4,960 | None | Yes | Yes | 12/15 | \$68,000 |
| MAZDA | | | | | | |
| B-Series 2WD | 2,960 | 55/None | Yes | No | 20/25 | \$12,655 |
| B-Series 4WD | 3,380 | 55/None | Yes* | Yes* | 17/20 | \$18,250 |
| Tribute DX 2WD | 2,991 | 55/None | Yes | No | 23/28 | \$17,005 |
| * With manual transfer case. | | | | | | |
| NISSAN | | | | | | |
| Frontier 2WD | 3,196 | 60/500* | Yes | No | 22/25 | \$12,799 |
| Frontier 4WD | 3,885 | 60/500* | Yes** | No | 16/18 | \$18,599 |
| Pathfinder SE | 3,915 | 60/200/500* | Yes** | No | 16/18 | \$27,649 |
| Xterra SE | 3,589 | 60/200/500* | Yes** | No | 19/24 | \$17,999 |
| * V-6 engine, 200-mile limit; four-cylinder, 500-mile limit. Start engine to recirculate transmission fluids when this limit is reached. | | | | | | |
| **4WD transfer case must be left in neutral. | | | | | | |

2002 DINGHY TOW GUIDE

TOWABLE SPORT-UTILITY VEHICLES & PICKUPS

| Model | Base Curb Weight (lb) | Speed/Distance Limits | Manual Trans | Automatic Trans | Mileage City/Hwy | Base Retail |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| PONTIAC | | | | | | |
| Vibe | 2,701 | 55/200* | Yes | No | 29/36 | \$16,900 |
| <i>* After 200 miles, engine must be started and allowed to idle for more than 3 minutes before driving or continuing to tow.</i> | | | | | | |
| SATURN | | | | | | |
| VUE | 3,232 | 65/None | Yes | No | 21/28 | \$16,325 |
| SUBARU | | | | | | |
| Forester L | 3,140 | None | Yes | No | 21/27 | \$20,295 |
| Outback Wagon | 3,425 | None | Yes | No | 21/27 | \$22,895 |
| SUZUKI | | | | | | |
| Grand Vitara 4WD | 3,197 | 55/200 | Yes** | Yes* | 19/21 | \$19,599 |
| Vitara 4WD | 2,987 | 55/200 | Yes** | Yes* | 22/25 | \$17,099 |
| XL-7 4WD | 3,682 | 55/200 | Yes** | Yes* | 17/20 | \$20,799 |
| <i>* Stop towing vehicle every 200 miles. With the transfer case lever in neutral, start engine, shift into D (drive) and rev engine for about one minute to circulate oil in the transfer case. Shift into park before next towing.</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>** Stop towing vehicle every 200 miles. Leave manual transmission in second gear. With the transfer case in neutral, start engine and rev for about one minute with the clutch engaged to circulate oil in the transfer case.</i> | | | | | | |
| TOYOTA | | | | | | |
| Matrix | 2,679 | 55/200* | Yes | No | 30/35 | \$14,670 |
| RAV4 2WD | 2,711 | 55/200* | Yes | No | 25/31 | \$16,525 |
| RAV4 4WD | 2,877 | 55/200* | Yes | No | 22/27 | \$17,925 |
| <i>* After 200 miles, engine must be started and allowed to idle for more than 3 minutes before driving or continuing to tow.</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>*** Information not available at presstime.</i> | | | | | | |