

Victoria's HPFV Network for 73t Quad-Tri and 77.5t Quad-Quad B-Doubles

What is the difference between current B-Doubles and HPFVs?

B-Doubles are up to 26 metres long and have a Gross Combination Mass (GCM) of 68.5 tonne. In Victoria, a High Productivity Freight Vehicle (HPFV) is a heavy vehicle combination that exceeds 26 metres and/or has a GCM in excess of 68.5 tonne.

What roads can be accessed by HPFVs?

The Victorian HPFV network is being developed with a focus on providing access to primary freight routes connecting with Victorian Ports, interstate links and key industries.

VicRoads is progressively assessing more freight routes to continue to expand the HPFV network. A map and details of Victoria's HPFV network are available on VicRoads website via

<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/heavy-vehicle-map-networks-in-victoria>

Why is the B-Double HPFV network different to Victoria's current B-Double network?

Not all roads and road infrastructure can safely provide access to HPFVs that are longer and heavier than 68.5 tonne B-Doubles. This can be as a result of bridges that have not been built to cater for the heavier HPFVs or the road geometry is not suitable for vehicles longer than 26 metres.

What do the different coloured roads stand for on the VicRoads HPFV Mass map?

To help distinguish the HPFV access status of different roads the following colours have been used:

- Green = approved for HPFV at full mass
- Orange = approved for HPFV at reduced mass
- Blue = approved for HPFV at full mass following highway upgrade
- Red = restricted to 68.5 tonnes

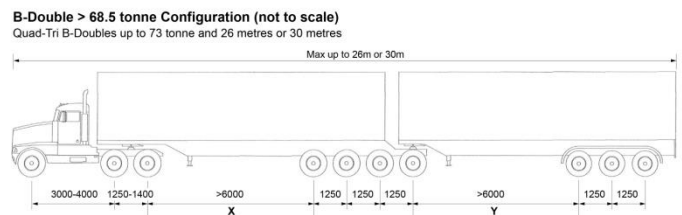
What are the specific mass limits and axle spacings?

The mass limits for B-Double HPFV operating on the network are as follows:

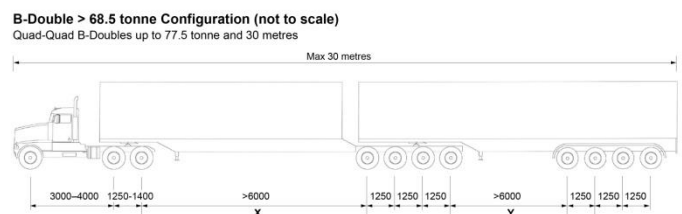
- Steer Axle – 6.0 tonnes

- Steer Axle – 6.5 tonnes¹
- Drive Axle or Tandem Axle Group – 17.0 tonnes
- Tri-Axle Group – 22.5 tonnes
- Quad-Axle Group – 27.0 tonnes
- Overall – 77.5 tonnes

In relation to axle spacings, the combination must meet the following minimum and maximum axle spacings to safely cross all the structures on the network (the figures are in millimetres):²



Note – X plus Y axle spacing for Quad-Tri B-Double must be greater than 13m



Note – X plus Y axle spacing for Quad-Quad B-Double must be greater than 13m

What are the specific dimension limits?

The dimension limits for Quad-Tri and Quad-Quad B-Doubles on the HPFV Mass network are as follows:

- Maximum Length – 30 metres (for exclusive operation in metropolitan Melbourne)
- Maximum Length – 36.5 metres (in Regional Victoria)
- Maximum Height – 4.3 metres
- Maximum Width – 2.5 metres

What are the operating conditions on the HPFV Mass Network?

The following conditions apply to operate Quad-Tri and Quad-Quad B-Doubles on the HPFV Mass Network:

- Satisfy Performance Based Standards;
- HPFV B-Doubles are fitted with a GPS device accredited under the Intelligent Access Program (IAP);

¹ Provided the prime mover meets the conditions set out in Schedule 3 of the *Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation*.

² Combinations that do not comply with the minimum and maximum axle spacings noted above will require a bridge assessment on the nominated route.

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- Fitment of a certified On Board Mass (OBM) system that can be integrated with IAP³;
- The B-Double (prime mover and trailers) is accredited under the Mass Management module of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme;
- The B-Double has an anti-lock braking system fitted on all axles;
- Certified Road Friendly Suspension (RFS) is fitted to the B-Double;
- The B-Double does not exceed a speed of 90 km/h or any lower speed limit applying to the route;
- The B-Double displays a "long vehicle" warning sign at the front and rear.

What about rail level crossings on the network?

In line with the *Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983*, heavy vehicles that exceed 26.0 metres in length require a permit before they are allowed to cross a rail level crossing.

Consequently, prior to operating the combination, the registered owner must obtain a permit from the Over Dimension Load team as part of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. Applications stating the length of the Road-Train and the time of day(s) of the journey must be sent to odlpermit@ecodev.vic.gov.au. Please be aware that applications can take up to **five days** to process.

For more information please contact the following number – 9655 6134. (More information can also be found at the [Department's website](#)).

How do I obtain approval to operate a Quad-Tri or Quad-Quad B-Double on this network?

A Class 2 heavy vehicle permit must be obtained to operate a Quad-Tri or Quad-Quad B-Double on the HPFV network. Applications for a Class 2 heavy vehicle permit can be submitted via the [National Heavy Vehicle Regulator](#) website.

³ While fitment of an approved OBM system has been specified as an access condition, it is recognised that such systems are not currently available. Accordingly, this requirement is waived until such time as when advice is provided by VicRoads that an OBM system must be fitted to the combination in accordance with the specifications and standards set by Transport Certification Australia.