

New to Shunting?

Just like any other industry, shunting comes with its own set of terms and jargon that are unique to the field. To help you get started, here are some commonly used words and phrases you should know:

3 Point Touch	Having 3 points of contact every time you enter or exit truck.
5th Wheel	Coupling device connecting truck to trailer.
Air Brake	Braking system using compressed air.
Barn Door	Trailer doors that swing open.
Bobtail	Truck without a trailer.
BOL	Bill of Lading – shipment document.
Bungee Cord	Elastic cord used to secure items.
Carrier	Company transporting goods.
Chassis	Frame used to carry containers.
Container	Box used for shipping goods.
Def	Diesel Exhaust Fluid for emissions control.
Dock Door	Entry point for loading/unloading trailers.
Dock Light	Light indicating trailer status at dock.
Dock lock	Equipment installed at the loading dock to prevent vehicles from leaving the dock during the unloading/loading process.
Dock Safety	Making sure the dock light is green and dock lock disengaged before hooking to trailer on door.

Drop	Detaching a trailer from the truck.
DVIR	Driver Vehicle Inspection Report.
ELD	Electronic Logging Device for driver hours.
Electric Wheel Chock	Powered version of wheel chock.
Fifth wheel	Special hydraulically lifting coupling device that connects to a trailer's kingpin, allowing the driver to connect and disconnect trailers.
Flatbed	Open trailer with no sides or roof.
Gatehouse	Entry checkpoint for trucks and trailers.
GeoTab	GPS tracking and fleet management tool.
Glad hands	A glad hand is a coupling device used to connect the service and supply air lines from a truck or tractor to its trailer.
Hook	Connecting a trailer to the truck.
Hydraulic Boom	Mechanism to lift/lower trailer connections.
Jack Stand	Support placed under trailer legs.
Live Load/Unload	Loading/unloading while driver waits.
Lockout	Procedure to disable equipment for safety.
Move	Relocating a trailer from one spot to another.
Mudflaps	Protect vehicles from road debris and water spray by acting as a barrier behind the wheels.
Operations	Team managing yard and warehouse flow.

Pick	Selecting and hooking a trailer for movement.
PO Number	Purchase Order identifier.
Post Trip Inspection	Safety check after completing a shift.
PPE	Safety gear like vest, gloves, boots.
Pre-Trip Inspection	Safety check before starting a shift.
Pup Trailers	Small trailers, sizes from 28 to 34 foot.
Reefer Trailer	Refrigerated trailer for perishable goods.
Roll up Door	Trailer door that rolls upward.
Safety sticker	Trailer inspection expiry date located on side front of unit, to be renewed each year
Seal Cutters	Tool to remove trailer seals.
Seals	Tags used to secure trailer doors.
Secondary securement devices	Bungee Cord, Wire Tie, Zip Tie used for securing trailer doors.
Shunt Truck	Specialized truck used for yard moves.
Shunter	Driver who moves trailers within the yard.
Shunting	Moving trailers within the yard.
Shuntware	NSSL Proprietary Yard Management Systems.
Shuttle	Moving trailers between nearby locations.
Spill kit	Kit attached to shunt trucks containing spill containment items.

Spill Response	Procedure for handling spills safely.
Spotter Assistance	Person guiding trailer movement.
Tablet	Device used for tracking and logging moves.
Temp Check	Temperature check for reefer trailers.
Tilting & Lowering	Adjusting trailer height for hook/drop.
Trailer Legs	Support legs that hold trailer when dropped.
Trailer Number	Unique ID for each trailer.
Trailer Staging Area	Designated area for trailer parking.
Tug Test	Pull test to ensure trailer is properly hooked.
Warehouse	Facility where goods are stored or processed.
Wheel Chock	Block placed to prevent trailer movement.
WMS	Warehouse Management System.
Yard Check	Physical check of trailer locations.
Yard Dog	Nickname for a shunt truck.
Yard Jockey	Another name for a shunter.
YMS	Yard Management System.