

# Bryant 233X & Magic Tilt Trailer: Trailering Checklist

Vessel: 2013 Bryant 233X | Trailer: 2016 Magic Tilt Tandem

Hank's Marine Assistant (Bryant 233X)

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A professional, repeatable checklist to ensure safety and prevent common trailering failures. Perform these checks every time.

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## 1. Pre-Departure (At Home/Storage)

### Boat & Trailer Prep

- ☐ **Drain Plugs:** Confirm **ALL** drain plugs are **IN** (especially the main hull plug).
- ☐ **Outdrive:** Tilt Bravo III outdrive **UP** to "Trailer" position.
- ☐ **Gear:** Secure all loose gear inside boat (cushions, PFDs, covers).
- ☐ **Bimini:** Bimini top is down and secured in its boot.
- ☐ **Bow:** Secure **bow winch strap** AND **bow safety chain**.
- ☐ **Trailer Tongue** Secure folding tongue in towing position.
- ☐ **Stern (CRITICAL):** Secure two (2) **transom ratchet straps** from the trailer frame to the boat's stern tie-down eyes.

### Tires & Spares

- ☐ **Visual Insp.:** Visually inspect 4 trailer tires (cracks, bulges).
- ☐ **Pressure (Trailer):** Check pressure on all 4 trailer tires (Confirm PSI on sidewall, likely **50 PSI** cold).
- ☐ **Pressure (Truck):** Check pressure on F-150's rear tires (adjust for load).
- ☐ **Pressure (Spare):** Check pressure on spare trailer tire.
- ☐ **Spares Kit Loaded:** Confirm spares are in the F-150:
  - ☐ Spare Tire
  - ☐ Trailer-Aid Ramp
  - ☐ **Hub Toolbox** (containing pre-greased hub assemblies, jack, lug wrench, grease gun, and rags).

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## 2. Hook-Up (Connecting to F-150)

- ☐ **Hitch:** Lower trailer coupler onto the F-150's **2" ball**.
- ☐ **Latch:** Secure the coupler latch.
- ☐ **Lock:** Insert the **coupler safety pin or lock** (DO NOT FORGET).
- ☐ **Chains:** Connect both safety chains, **crossed in an "X"** under the tongue.
- ☐ **Jack:** Raise the trailer tongue jack *all the way* and swing to its horizontal, stowed position.
- ☐ **Electrical:** 1. Connect **7-way (truck) to 5-pin (trailer) adapter** to the F-150.  
2. Connect the trailer's **5-pin flat plug** to the adapter.

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## 3. Final Walk-Around (The "Pre-Flight")

### Truck Systems Check (Vehicle On)

- ☐ **Tow Mode:** Activate "**Tow/Haul**" Mode on the F-150 dashboard.
- ☐ **Lights:** Test running lights, brake lights, and both turn signals.
- ☐ **Reverse Lockout (CRITICAL):** Foot on brake, shift F-150 to **Reverse**. Listen for an audible "**CLICK**" from the trailer tongue. This is the 5th-pin solenoid engaging.
  - *No click? Your surge brakes will lock when you try to reverse. Stop and diagnose the 7-to-5 adapter or wiring.*

### Final Securement Check (Walk-Around)

- ☐ Coupler latched and pinned?
  - ☐ Chains crossed?
  - ☐ Electrical plugged in?
  - ☐ Transom straps tight?
  - ☐ Bow strap & chain tight?
  - ☐ Outdrive tilted UP?
  - ☐ Nothing loose in boat or truck bed?
  - ☐ Spares kit loaded?
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#### 4. On-the-Road Procedure

- **Drive Defensively:** You are 5,000+ lbs heavier. Make wide turns and **double** your normal stopping distance.
- **First 30-Minute Stop (CRITICAL):**
  - Pull over at a safe location (rest stop, gas station).
  - Carefully feel all 4 trailer wheel hubs. They should be warm, but **NEVER so hot you can't hold your hand on them.**
  - (*A “screaming hot” hub = bearing failure is imminent.*)
  - Re-check transom and bow straps for tightness.