

## CHECKLIST

# Is the animal fit to load?

Before livestock are loaded, ensure you complete this checklist. Remember, it's your responsibility to ensure animals are fit to load and fit for the intended journey before they are loaded.

The animal:

- can walk on its own by bearing weight on all four legs
- is free from visible signs of severe injury or distress or conditions likely to further compromise its welfare during transport
- is strong enough to make the journey (i.e. not dehydrated or emaciated)
- can see well enough to walk, load and travel without impairment or distress (e.g. it is not blind in both eyes)
- is not in late pregnancy or too young to travel (refer to [Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for the Land Transport of Livestock](#) to determine limits for late pregnancy)
- has had adequate access to water prior to loading to meet the maximum time off water standards (see page 15 of [Is the animal fit to load? Guide](#)).

### Note

- ▶ If the animal was grazed on lush green pasture, ensure it was removed from the paddock well in advance of loading and provided with access to adequate roughage (where possible).
- ▶ Prior to the journey commencing all required paperwork must have been completed for the movement (e.g. LPA NVD, Waybill, Animal Health Declaration).



### More information

Download the full *Is the animal fit to load? Guide* at [mла.com.au/fittoload](https://mla.com.au/fittoload). This national guide includes more detailed information to help producers, agents, buyers and transporters decide if an animal is fit to be loaded for transport by road or rail.