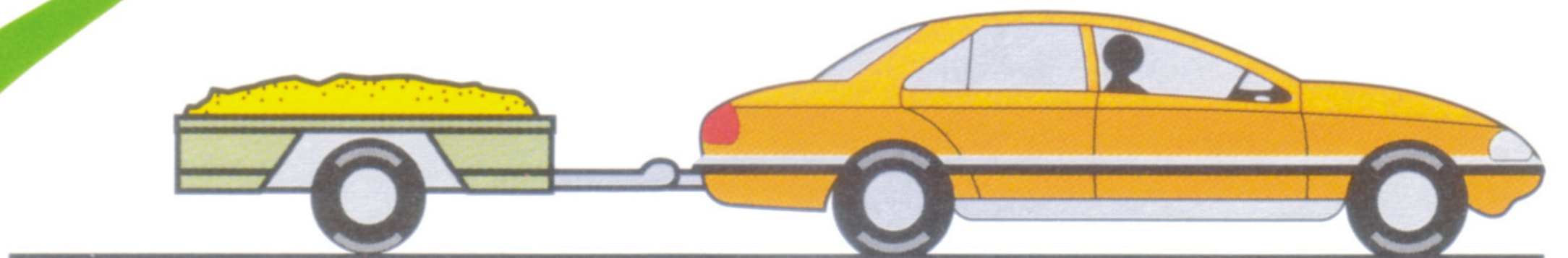
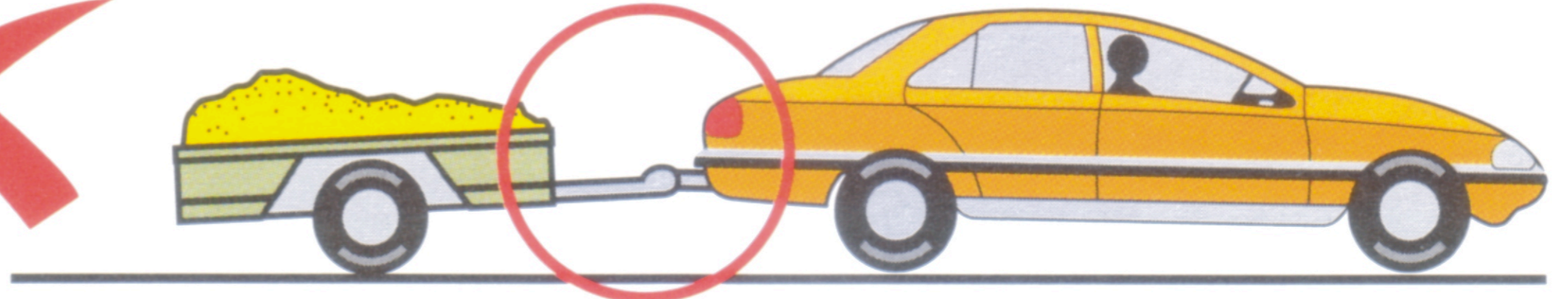
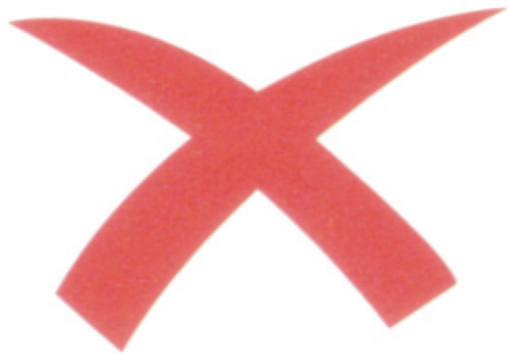
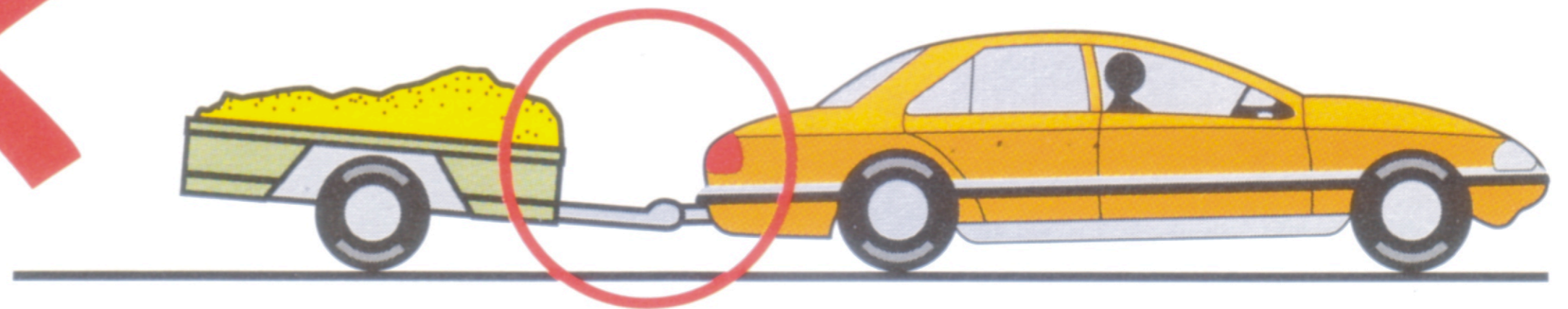


Trailer Safety Tips

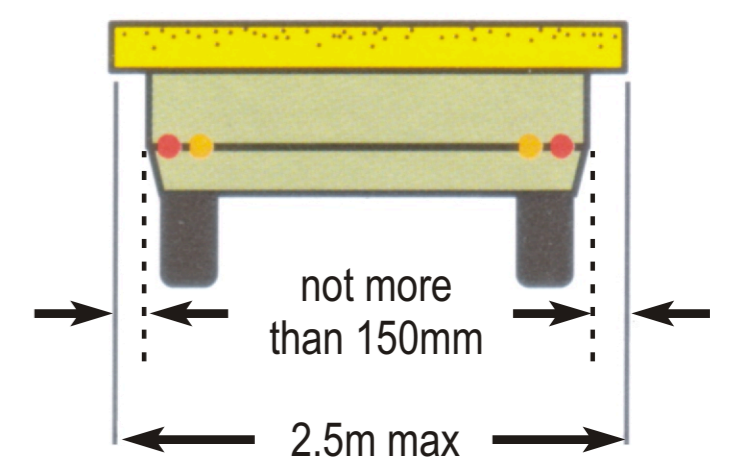
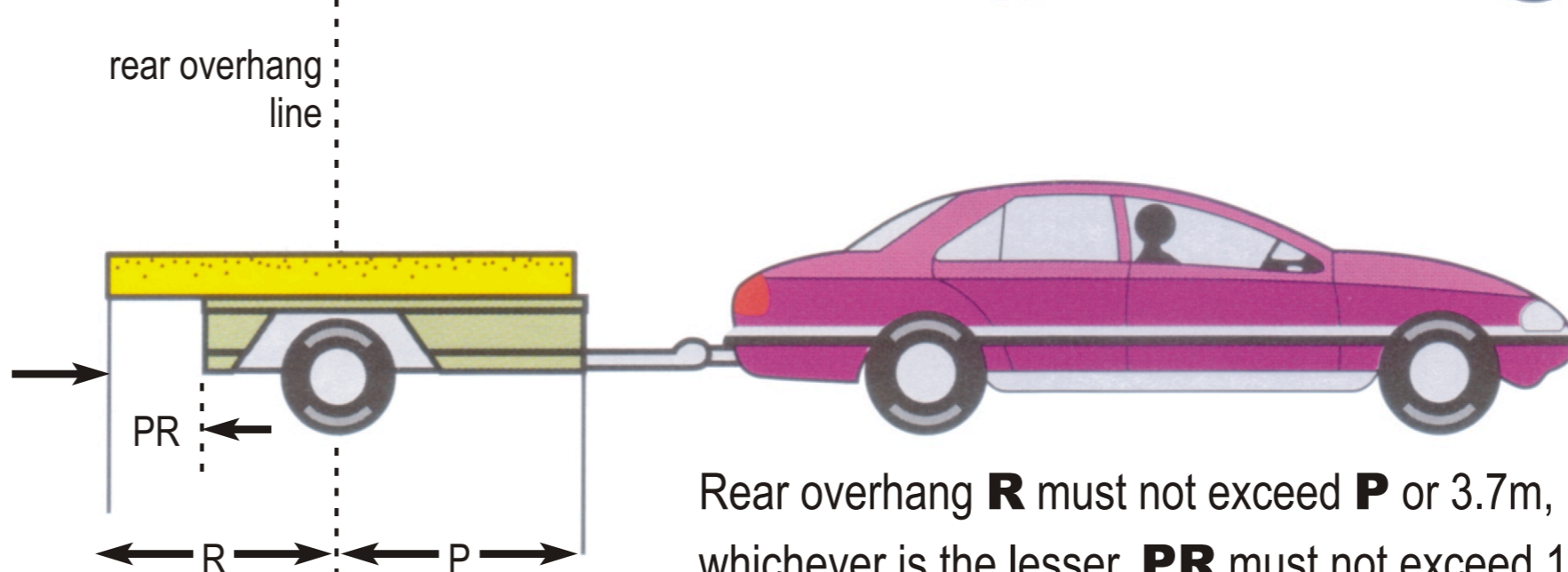
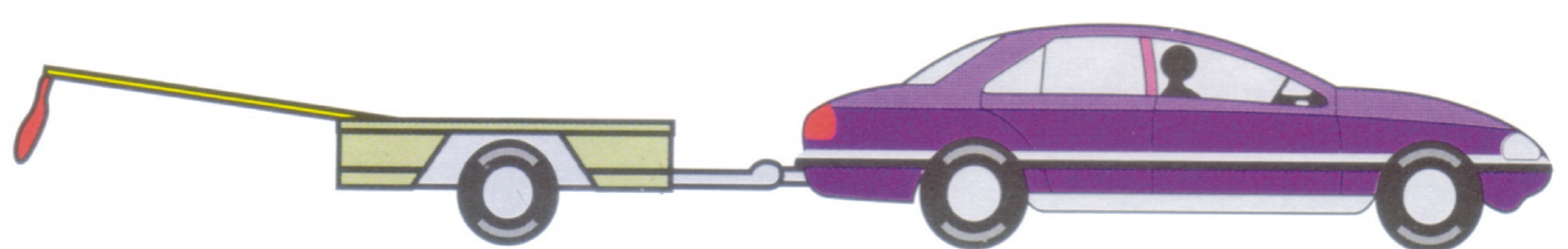
- The manufacturer's recommended trailer load and tyres must not be exceeded.
- The load on a vehicle must not be placed in a way that makes the vehicle unstable or unsafe.
- The load must be properly secured to your trailer. *The Road Traffic Code 2000* specifies details on the securing of loads. For people who frequently carry loads, or people who need to carry an unusual load, it is recommended that they refer to the *Load Restraint Guide*.
- The load should preferably be kept within the confines of the trailer. A rear projection is permissible (see below) but the projection should never exceed 1.2 metres.
- To reduce the chances of sway, large masses should not be located towards the ends of the trailer, even if the correct balance can be obtained.
- Loads should be kept as low as possible, and as close as possible to the axle. About 60% of the total mass should be forward of the axle centre.
- For light trailers about 5% to 10% of the total mass of the loaded trailer should be supported by the tow vehicle coupling. The trailer drawbar should be level or slightly nose down. However the downward force on the towbar should never exceed the maximum recommended downward load on the towbar specified in the vehicle handbook. This can usually be achieved by careful repositioning of the load.



Projecting Loads

Should projection of the load be required:

- All projecting loads must be made easily visible and be unlikely to cause injury, obstruction or damage.
- The load must not project more than 150mm beyond the trailer's width or to more than 2.5m overall width, whichever is the lesser. (Loads in excess of 2.5m width can only be carried when a permit is issued by Main Roads WA).
- The distance from the centre of the axle or wheel group to the rear of the load must not exceed 3.7m.
- The distance from the centre of the axle or wheel group to the rear of the load must be equal to or less than the distance from the centre of the axle or wheel group to the front of the load.
- The overhanging load must be easily visible. In daylight this may be achieved by attaching a conspicuous flag, and at night by attaching a red lamp.
- Projecting loads must not obscure lights or reflectors.



Note: If your trailer is built to the maximum allowable dimensions, you cannot carry any projecting load.

Towbar Requirements

- Your towbar must comply with Australian Design Rules, Standards and Regulations.
- The capacity of your towbar and coupling must be at least equal to the loaded mass of the trailer. A towbar fitted to a vehicle built after January 1992 must be marked with its load capacity and either the vehicle model for which it is designed or the towbar manufacturer's part number.
- The towbar must not protrude dangerously, or have sharp corners that could be a safety hazard when no trailer is fitted to your vehicle.
- Towbar chain attachments must be able to withstand the rated load capacity of the towbar.
- The safety chain attachments must be mounted adjacent to the tow coupling and arranged so as to maintain the direction of the trailer in the event of coupling failure or disconnection.
- In the event of coupling failure or disconnection, the safety chain(s) should support the drawbar and prevent it dropping to the ground.
- Towbars with a removable towing lug should be fitted with safety chain connections on the non-removable part of the towbar. If the chain connections are on the removable lug then the lug must be restrained by an additional chain to prevent disconnection from the towbar if the lug attachment fails.

