

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the daily limit for each rule set?

RULE SET	DAILY LIMIT
Federal interstate	14/11/10
California intrastate	16/12/10
Federal motion picture exemption	15/10/8
California motion picture exemption	15/12/8
Passenger-carrying	15/10/8

2. What do the daily limit numbers mean?

The first number is your on-duty limit for the day. It includes driving hours and on-duty (but not driving) hours. The second number is the driving time limit. The third number is the required amount of consecutive off-duty hours a driver must take before being allowed to drive again.

3. May I use a 34-hour restart with a motion picture exemption?

No. A 34-hour restart may NOT be used with a motion picture exemption.

4. With which rule sets may I use the 34-hour restart?

You may use the 34-hour restart with the federal interstate rule set and the California intrastate rule set.

5. Do I need to fill in a log for days I didn't work?

Yes. You must have with you a record of duty status (aka log) for each day covering the prior seven days. If you didn't work, the log will denote off-duty time. One log can be used for more than one consecutive day off duty.

6. Can I take my required 30-minute break after being on duty for 8 hours? (I'm operating under the federal interstate rule set.)

Yes. A break of at least 30 minutes must be taken after no more than 8 cumulative hours of driving time have passed since the end of your last non-driving interruption of at least 30 consecutive minutes.

7. If I end an interstate trip on Friday, can I operate under the California motion picture exemption on Monday?

No. After a trip in interstate commerce, you must follow a federal rule set for 8 days. Your choices are the federal rule set with a 14/11/10 daily limit, or the federal motion picture exemption with a 15/10/8 daily limit. The federal motion picture exemption is a bit more flexible. It has one more hour of on-duty time and a shorter off-duty requirement. Also, on-duty hours are cumulative, so off-duty hours don't count toward the 15-hour on-duty limit.

8. Can I fill in my log at the end of the day?

No. Your log must be filled in as the day progresses, marking each change of duty status as it occurs in real time.

9. Do I need to tell my weekday employer about hours I worked over the weekend for a different employer?

Yes. On Monday you must report to your weekday employer all on-duty time you accrued over the weekend. That weekend on-duty time counts toward your 70-hour/8-day or 80-hour/8-day limit. This information can be provided on copies of your daily logs showings on-duty and off-duty activity or on a 7-Day Recap form.

10. Can I use one log for a shift that spans two days, like for an overnight shoot?

No. A shift that spans two days must be recorded on two logs. All activity before midnight is recorded on one log. All activity after midnight is recorded on a second log.

11. How do I record total miles driven for a shift that spans two days?

When working a shift that spans two days, the miles you drive on day one (up until midnight) are recorded on one log, and the miles you drive on day two (after midnight) are recorded on a second log. Neither log should show "0" in the Total Miles Driven box if you have driven at all on the applicable date.

12. How do I record driving time for a shift that spans two days?

Driving done before midnight goes on the first day's log. Driving done after midnight goes on the second day's log. The total drive time on each log should only reflect that particular day's drive time and should not be combined on either log.

13. My shift of all non-commercial driving went past midnight. I had the required off-duty hours, and then I started a second shift where I drove CMVs. Should I check the Non-Commercial Equipment checkbox on the log for both days?

No. Check the Non-Commercial Equipment checkbox only when you drive non-commercial for all on-duty hours of the 24-hour period shown on the log. In this case, check the box on the first log only. Because you drove a CMV on the second day, the Non-Commercial Equipment checkbox should not be checked.

14. Can I take sleeper berth time while resting in the backseat of a van?

No. A van does not have a regulation-compliant sleeper berth. That time should be recorded as off duty.

15. While working in Savannah, Georgia, I drove over the border to Hardeeville, South Carolina, a 22-mile trip. Which rule set should I use?

Because you crossed a state border, you need to operate under a federal rule set. However, the destination was within 100 air miles of your work reporting location, so you can use the federal motion picture exemption (15/10/8).

16. What are the turnaround requirements when changing rule sets?

When transitioning into or out of a rule set that requires 10 consecutive hours off duty and a rule set that requires 8 consecutive hours off duty, you must take 10 consecutive hours off duty. This is commonly referred to as "bookend 10s."

When transitioning between rule sets that require 8 consecutive hours off duty, take 8 consecutive hours off duty.

17. How should I log my time when I work for two productions in the same 24-hour period?

Each production must have a record of your on-duty and off-duty activity for the full 24-hour period. You have two options to fulfill this requirement:

1. Fill in two logs with identical information, and give a log to each production.
2. Fill in one log, and electronically scan a copy. Give the original to one production and the scanned copy to the other production.

18. When driving under the federal interstate rule set or the federal motion picture exemption and traveling to a different time zone, which time zone should I follow to fill in my log correctly?

Follow the time zone of your home terminal.