

FAQ: I have mobile home axles. Can I change the hubs to standard trailer hubs?

[1] Mobile home axles are typically designed for very limited highway use before some components degrade with failure potential.

Hubs & hub drums are among those items which may be subject to failure if these components are installed on a trailer that is subjected to normal highway use & speeds for extended mileage.

This is why some states have prohibited the use of Mobile home hubs on standard highway use trailers.

[2] Mobile home rims [commonly referred to as Doughnut Rims] are attached to the hub by a bolt & clip device called a Rim Clamp.

[3] Standard mobile home application uses axles rated at 6000# or 7000# with 14.5 x 6 doughnut rims rated at 3000# each & 14.5 x 7 rims rated at 3500# each.

[4] One of the problems that can occur is that IF the rim clamp bolts or nuts are not Torqued to proper specifications the rim may loosen during highway travel.

This can have catastrophic consequences.

[5] Most mobile home axles have the #42 spindle [1 3/4" x 1 1/4"] using bearings # 25580 [1 3/4" ID] inner & 15123 [1 1/4" ID] outer.

[6] The spindle diameter of 1 3/4" inner X 1 1/4" outer matches the spindle requirements for both 6 lug & 8 lug standard trailer hubs, or hub drums.

[7] Therefore MOBILE HOME axles CAN be used with standard [LUG NUT] style hubs & hub drums in most cases.

However if using brake hub drums with mobile home axles it is important to note that mobile home axles are designed as ECONO axles. In order to optimize their cost efficiency the manufacturers of those axles often weld the brake backing plates [brake clusters] directly to the axle tubing instead of installing brake flanges on the axle.

Standard trailer 6000# or 7000# axles typically use a 5 hole brake flange with 3/8" diameter holes for compatibility with most 12" brakes.

Some mobile home axles may be equipped with this type of 5 hole brake flange.

Others may have a 4 hole brake flange.

If the axle is equipped with either a four hole brake flange, or if the brake backing plate is welded to the axle tubing, the axle will not be compatible with standard 12" X 2" brakes.

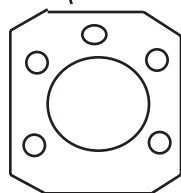
If the 5 hole brake flange is in place the axle can be used with either electric or hydraulic drum brakes.

[8] If you are ordering replacement hubs or hub drums for Mobile Home Axles, be sure to confirm the seal seat diameter to be sure you get the correct seals.

Typically the seal seat will be either 2.125" or 2.250".



Doughnut RIM



**8 Lug hub Drum with
1 3/4" inner brg # 25580 &
1 1/4" outer brg**



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