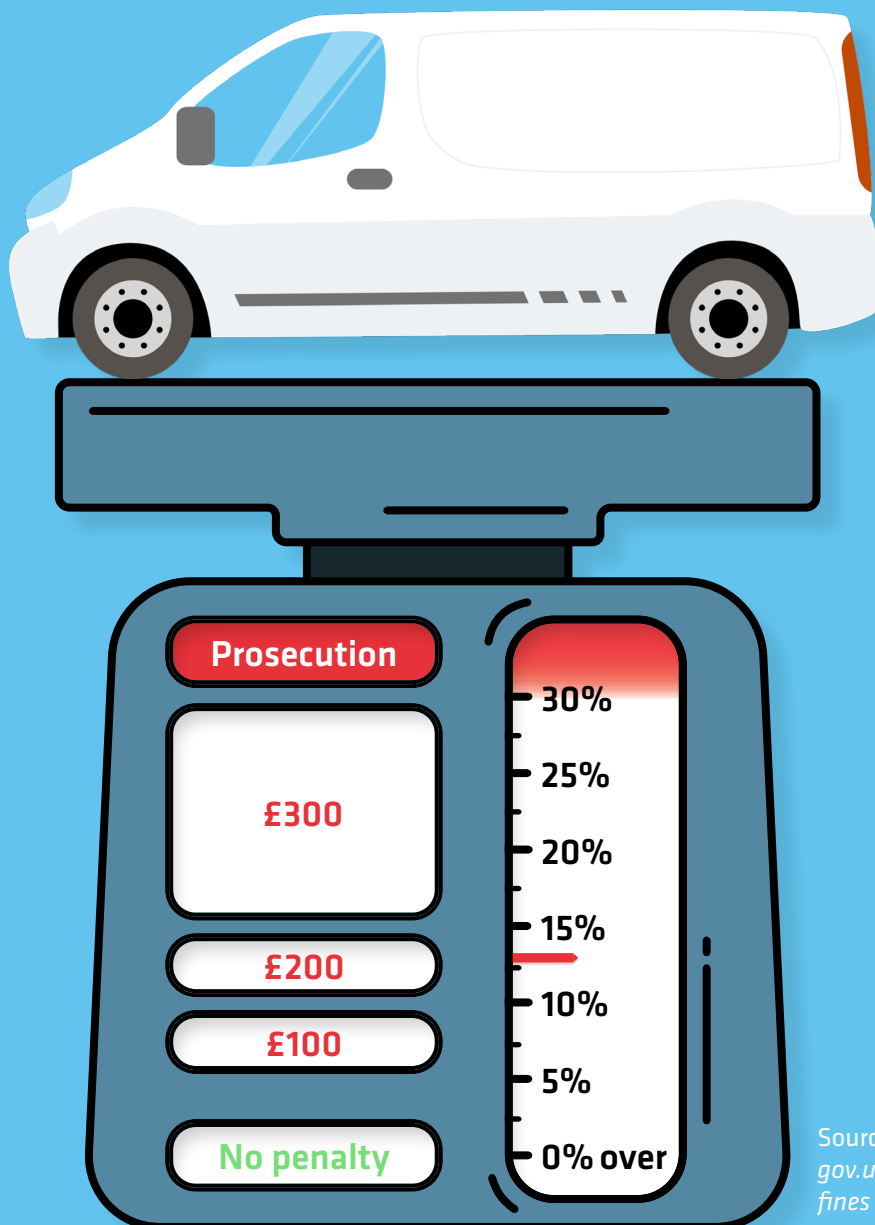


NEVER OVERLOAD YOUR VEHICLE



Source:
gov.uk - 'DVSA roadside checks:
fines and financial deposits'

Overloaded vehicles are a danger to you and other road users, and carry a penalty depending on the severity of the offence. Follow this simple calculation to avoid it happening to you:

**GROSS VEHICLE
WEIGHT**

-

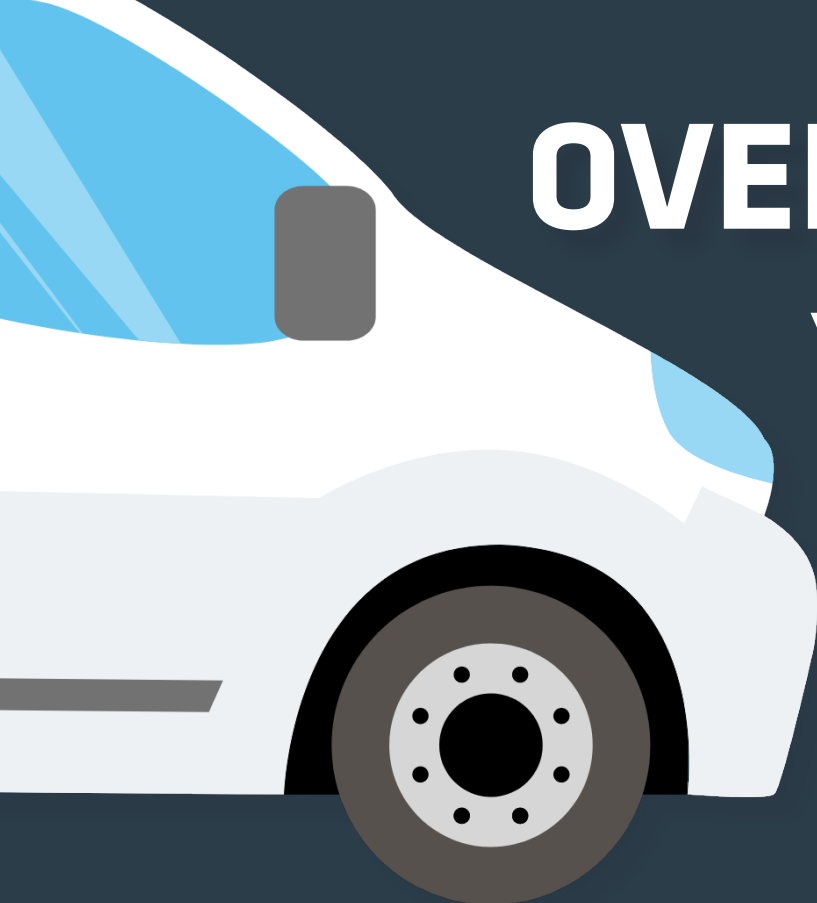
**UNLADEN
WEIGHT**

=

**MAXIMUM
PAYLOAD**

Found on a vehicle's VIN plate, this is the maximum the vehicle can legally weigh when loaded including fuel, passengers, cargo and anything else that might be in the vehicle.

When a vehicle is fuelled but empty (including no driver or passengers) this is known as the unladen weight or 'kerb weight'.



OVERLOADING YOUR VEHICLE MEANS...

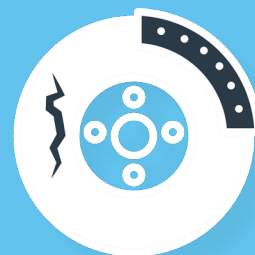
REDUCED CONTROL

Even if you feel comfortable driving heavy vehicles, exceeding the weight limit can mean you're less likely to stop safely. Excess weight can also cause issues with handling and make it harder to steer and manoeuvre, and to react to emergency situations.



INCREASED WEAR AND TEAR

Overloaded vehicles can expect more wear and tear on vital components such as brakes, clutches, suspension and tyres. This can result in more frequent vehicle downtime and expensive repairs while also putting people in danger if those parts were to fail.



INCREASED EMISSIONS

It's not just drivers at risk. Studies have proven that overloading a vehicle results in a significant increase in the amount of CO2 emissions that are released when driving. This can impact local air quality, increasing the harmful pollutants that affect vulnerable groups.



It's worth remembering that the real cost of overloading a vehicle could be someone losing their life in a serious on-road incident. Avoid the situation altogether by getting to know your vehicle's Gross Vehicle Weight (it can be found on the VIN plate) which is the maximum the vehicle can legally weigh including fuel, passengers and you.