



CHOOSING THE RIGHT VEHICLE FOR THE JOB¹

The safest vehicle is the one best suited to the job. The information in this table may be helpful when deciding which of the vehicles available to your organisation is the most suitable for different work tasks or conditions encountered. This table is intended as a general guide only and does not substitute for a risk assessment.

When looking at choosing the right vehicle for the job, you should assess the risk and read the manufacturer's operator manual.

VEHICLE USE	TWO-WHEELED AG BIKE	QUAD BIKE	SIDE BY SIDE VEHICLE	UTE OR 4WD	TRACTOR
GENERAL TASKS					
Inspecting and patrolling	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Orange
Mustering of stock	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Orange
Spraying	Red	Red	Orange	Green	Green
Maintenance work (1)	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green
CARRYING GOODS					
Light tools, equipment and dogs	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Bulky loads and stock	Red	Red	Orange	Green	Orange
Light, low or secured loads (2)	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Heavy, high or unsecured loads (2)	Red	Red	Orange	Orange	Green
Passengers	Orange	Red	Green	Green	Red
GROUND CONDITIONS					
Sealed roads	Green	Red	Red	Green	Orange
Gravel or dirt roads	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Steep uneven terrain	Orange	Red	Red	4WD	Red
Flat or gentle sloping terrain	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Soft or muddy	Green	Green	Green	4WD	Green
RIDER CAPABILITY					
Inexperienced/untrained	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Physical limitations (size, strength, agility)	Orange	Red	Green	Green	Green
TOWING					
Narrow or small trailer (3)	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green
Wide or heavy trailer (3)	Red	Red	Orange	Green	Green

Green	Vehicle is appropriate for this task/circumstances if used in accordance with a task-based risk assessment
Orange	Vehicle could be used but an alternative vehicle could perform better or be safer
Red	CAUTION—do not use. Vehicle is not the safest vehicle for the task in these circumstances

Notes:

1. In all cases this will depend on what equipment needs to be carried to complete maintenance.
2. Do not exceed manufacturer's carrier limits.
3. Do not exceed manufacturer's towing limits.

¹ Adapted from the primary source 'Guidelines for the safe use of quad bikes', New Zealand Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, 2010, www.dol.govt.nz/