Prepare for the Trip

- Check brake function and adjustment before descending. Maintain a low speed in low gear, and use flashers to warn other vehicles of your reduced speed.
- Do not “ride” the truck’s brakes; this will cause overheating and possible loss of brake system.
- Consider Jake Brakes (engine compression brakes) to control the speed of a heavy truck, but the best practice is to use low gears to avoid overheating brakes.
- Keep brakes cool by pulling into brake check stations, or onto the shoulder of the road if you can locate a safe spot.

Using Runaway Truck Ramps

- Maneuver the truck into the far right lane before approaching ramp.
- As the truck approaches the runaway ramp, steer straight and try to keep the wheels aligned. Stay in the center of the ramp to avoid rolling over.
- Once the truck is stopped, call 911 to report, even if there are no injuries.
- There is NO fee, penalty, or fine for using runaway truck ramps.

Arm Yourself with Knowledge

- Know the road. Take the time to familiarize yourself with mountain passes.
- Obey the speed limit. Anticipate curves. Know how far you’ll travel.
- Identify public-access roads. Know where to find brake and chain-up stations.
- Inspect your brakes at the summit before descending. Know where to find runaway truck ramps.
- Visit cotrip.org to find locations of runaway truck ramps and brake check stations.
Brake Cooling and Runaway Truck Ramp Locations

Colorado I-70 Mountain Corridor

Brake Cooling/Chain Locations
Runaway Truck Ramps

Colorado Northwest  Colorado Southwest  Colorado Southeast

freight.cotrip.org  |  303.757.9539  |  800.350.3765  |  dot_cdot_permits@state.co.us