

Defining: Jackknife



The most common skid is one in which the rear tires lose traction through excessive speed or braking. Rear wheel braking skids occur when the rear drive wheels lock. Locked wheels have less traction. Rear wheels usually slide sideways in an attempt to catch up with the front wheels.

In a school bus, the vehicle slides sideways and possibly spins out.

With a vehicle towing a trailer, a drive-wheel skid allows the trailer to push the towing unit sideways, creating what is called a jackknife.