

SNOW CHECKLIST

Compact Tractor Snow Removal

Pick the right attachment. Prep before the first storm. Stay safe.

Pick the right attachment

Conditions	Best attachment	Why
Up to 6" / yr, paved	Front blade or loader bucket	Cheapest. Slow. Pile management is on you.
6 - 24" / yr, paved	Rear blade (angle + tilt)	Best value. Back-drag works fine.
6 - 24" / yr, gravel	Rear blade with skid shoes	Skid shoes are non-negotiable on gravel.
24 - 60" / yr, any surface	Front-mount snow blower	Throws snow clear. Big upfront cost.
60+" / yr or long driveway	Rear PTO snow blower	Highest throughput. Needs 25+ PTO HP.
Slick / icy paved drive	Loader bucket + rear ballast	Add rear chains. Ballast box mandatory.

Pre-storm checklist

- Rear ballast installed (box, weights, or loaded tires).
- Skid shoes set 1/4" off paved, 1/2" off gravel.
- Hydraulic angle / tilt cylinders cycled and leak-free.
- Marker stakes driven along driveway edges.
- Headlights, beacon, and rear work light all working.
- Diesel anti-gel additive in tank (below 20 F).
- Tire chains fitted to rear tires if grades > 5 degrees.
- Cutting edge intact, no chips or deep wear.
- PTO driveline greased; shear bolt spare in cab.
- Heated cab or insulated coveralls + face cover.
- Cab heater / defrost confirmed before the storm.
- Phone charged. Tell someone your start / stop time.

REMEMBER

Compact tractors are light. With a heavy front blower, you NEED rear ballast or you will lose steering. Never blow snow into wind, traffic, or anywhere a stone could reach a person, vehicle, or window.