Hitch Ball Lubrication

I have several customers ask whether they should lubricate their trailer hitch ball or just leave it dry. Their theory for not lubricating the hitch ball was that the grease collects dirt and would actually speed up wear on the ball.



You should apply a thin coating of grease (such as Reese Hitch Ball Lube) over the surface of the hitch ball to prevent as much friction as possible. There is nothing like the sound of metal against metal when turning.

You will want to clean the hitch ball monthly and apply a new coating of grease. At the same time you will want to clean out the coupler (ball socket and ball clamp) and apply a thin coating of grease. While you are already down on your hands and knees lubricate any moving parts on the coupler with SAE 30 weight oil.

It also is a good time to be checking for any wear or damage that may have occurred to the hitch ball or coupler.

When you are not towing, cover the hitch ball with some type of cover such as a tennis ball or a rubber boot that is especially designed for the ball.