

# A close look at caravan movers



Amid the confusion that reigns about buying the right caravan mover – **Purple Line Limited** put the biggest brands on test to compare performance and price and present you with all the facts and figures.

Pictured Below:  
**The Test Caravan**  
 A 2009 Elddis Xplore 495  
 MTPLM: 1300Kg  
 MIRO: 1088Kg  
 Tyre type: 175 R14C 99/98R – Tyre pressure: 46psi  
 Leisure Battery: Elecsol 110Ah Carbon Fibre Monobloc



## TEST FACTS

These tests were done to find out each caravan mover systems overall power, efficiency and performance.

## POWER EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE

Individual test conditions were identical for all models, on the same caravan and carried out in a controlled workshop environment.

## POWER TEST

Probably the most asked question for those buying a mover is: "Will it have the power to move my caravan?" Each mover was tested for maximum pulling power by performing a 'tug-of-war' against the static fork truck. The best performance reading was recorded.



**Test Equipment & Method:**  
 A GY-A12 weight indicator, TSC 5000Kg Load Cell, strops with shackles bolted to caravan tow hitch and fork lift truck with brakes on to represent dead weight.



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## EFFICIENCY TEST

To understand how efficient & effective your mover is, you need to know what energy it's sucking out of the caravan battery. The lower the current draw the longer your battery will last.

**Test Equipment & Method:**  
 Draper digital clamp meter multimeter tester.

This test measured the current being drawn by the mover motors when being operated on the one-in-four slope.



## PERFORMANCE TEST

The ramp test determined two things. Firstly, whether the mover was able to power up a 1-in-4 slope. Secondly, and more importantly, when the caravan was stopped on the ramp, it tested to see if the caravan would be held steady, or if it would roll back out of control when not under power.

**Test Equipment & Method:**  
 2 x one-in-four metal ramps.



## QUALITY ISSUES

All movers tested were of comparative type and functionality. There are a few features that should be noted and kept in mind.

**CROSS ACTUATION** - a feature that lets you wind on both mover rollers at once from either side of the caravan. Useful if you park your caravan close to a wall.

**MOTOR TRANSMISSION** - most movers now come with a geared drive train, as opposed to chain. Also, an offset gearbox is required to fit caravans with suspension units and shock absorbers.



Old style chain drive



Modern precision cut gears

## THE RESULTS

Manufacturer / Model	Maximum Power Output	Efficiency under load Lowest Current Draw	Did the mover scale the 1-in-4 ramp?	Did the mover hold firm on the ramp?	Does the mover have cross actuation?	Does the mover have a geared drive train?	Able to fit caravans with shock absorbers?	Price
1 Purple Line e-go	585 Kg	76 Amps	YES – with ease	PASS	YES	YES	YES	€795
2 Purple Line e-go promo	495 Kg	84 Amps	YES – with ease	PASS	YES	YES	YES	€695
3 Truma SR	426 Kg	135 Amps	YES – but struggled	PASS	YES	YES	YES	€1,150
4 Enduro ECO/Prestige	432 Kg	98 Amps	YES – with ease	PASS	YES	NO – chain	YES	€599
5 Powrtouch Heavy Duty	560 Kg	73 Amps	YES – with ease	FAIL	YES	YES	YES	€1,050
6 Reich Cross Move	355 Kg	115 Amps	YES – but struggled	FAIL	YES	YES	YES	€1,199
7 Rhyno Charger Mover	357 Kg	148 Amps	NO	FAIL	NO	YES	NO	€799

For even more comprehensive information on these and other comparison tests visit [www.purpleline.co.uk/moversontest](http://www.purpleline.co.uk/moversontest)