

If you've ever backed up a trailer on rough terrain or tight farm gates, you know the struggle is real. Whether it's a boat, a caravan, or heavy farm machinery strapped to a trailer, having limited visibility alongside your load can turn even a simple reversing job into a bloody nightmare. Now, before we dive into mirror talk, I'll ask upfront: **what year and what engine** are you running? Because fitment and compatibility vary—especially with the 2023 Toyota 70 Series facelift shaking things up.

[79 series snorkel kit](#)

Why Wider Towing Mirrors Matter

Towing mirrors aren't just an aftermarket accessory to bulk up your ute's look. They play a critical role in safe manoeuvring, especially when reversing trailers. Here's how wider towing mirrors add value:



1. Improved Trailer Reversing Visibility

Simply put, wider towing mirrors let you see past your load — they extend your field of vision to cover your trailer's wheels and hitch points. This is especially handy when your trailer's profile blocks out your factory mirrors' natural lines of sight.

2. Blind Spot Reduction

Stock mirrors often leave large blind spots — particularly the area immediately beside or behind your trailer. Wider mirrors reduce these blind zones, making lane changes and manoeuvres safer and more precise, particularly on narrow rural roads or when creek crossings are involved.

3. Dust and Debris Management

On dusty outback tracks, your mirrors can quickly become smeared or clogged. A good mirror setup alongside robust dust-management accessories like **Safari and ARMAX snorkel kits** contributes to better overall visibility

during those long drives. Worth noting, snorkel prices start from around \$526, offering a solid investment to improve your 4WD's breathing and reduce engine trouble from dust ingress.

Fitment Accuracy: Why Year and Engine Matter

Not all towing mirrors are created equal. Toyota's 70 Series, for instance, went through a substantial update in 2023 that changed mirror mounting points and electrical connectors. Which means trying to fit pre-2023 mirrors to a post-2023 model, or vice versa, risks poor alignment, improper function, or the dreaded "shed-on-a-Saturday" wiring job.

Model Year Engine Type Mirror Compatibility Notes Pre-2023 70 Series 4.5L V8 Diesel Uses mechanical and electrical mounts with specific harness. Safari and ARMAX offer tailored mirror fitments for these years. 2023+ 70 Series 4.5L V8 Diesel (Updated) Mirror mounts re-engineered, wiring updated for better integration. Check for updated Safari mirror kits designed for post-2023 chassis. Other Engines (V6, Petrol variants) Varies by year Confirm fitment with suppliers. ARMAX range includes some universal fitment options but beware of cutting looms – always insist on plug-and-play.

Pro tip: If you're unsure, contact Safari or ARMAX directly with your vehicle's build info. It saves time, money, and cursing later.



The Safety Angle: Towing Mirrors and Trailer Manoeuvres

Towing safety isn't just about long drives—it's about the tricky stops, starts, and reversing jobs. Wider mirrors can be a godsend for these challenging moments.

1. **See Beside the Load:** Wider mirrors give you direct sightlines down the trailer's sides, critical for spotting objects, fence posts, or creek banks.
2. **Reduce Blind Spots:** With blind spots nearly eliminated, lane merges on narrow country roads become less guesswork and more confidence.
3. **Reduce Stress:** Less twisting in the driver's seat and fewer spotter helpers required.
4. **Water Ingress Prevention:** Properly sealed mirrors reduce chances of water getting into wiring, a common failure point during creek crossings or heavy rain.

Speaking of water, it's worth noting the importance of good snorkel kits here. While towing mirrors give you the visual advantage, a solid **Safari snorkel kit** ensures your engine keeps breathing clean air no matter how deep the creek. ARMAX supplies a range of these snorkels that boast not only engine breathing but also reduce the risk of water ingress—a known killer in dust-heavy farming environments.

Dust, Water, and Wiring: The Trio to Get Right

From 12 years' experience fitting 70 Series builds, I'll call it like it is:

- **Messy wiring setups ruin good gear.** Don't chop your loom—if your mirrors need wiring, insist on factory plugs or bespoke adapters from suppliers like Safari.
- **Water ingress is the silent killer.** Make sure mirror housings are sealed, wiring relays are waterproof, and snorkel kits are genuine ARMAX or Safari gear.
- **Dust management complements mirror visibility.** A dusty lens equals poor visibility. Combine your wider towing mirrors with solid dust protection on headlights and snorkels to keep everything clear and performing.

Conclusion: Are Wider Towing Mirrors Worth It?

Short answer: Absolutely. If you regularly tow trailers, especially on farms, cattle sites, or out on rough tracks, wider towing mirrors aren't just beneficial—they're a safety essential. They provide the critical "see beside the load" advantage, reduce blind spots, and when paired with solid dust management and snorkel kits from trusted brands like **Safari** and **ARMAX**, keep your entire rig running smooth.

Just remember: Always check compatibility with your vehicle **year and engine**. Don't fall for one-size-fits-all or marketing fluff. Proper fitment means you avoid wiring headaches, mechanical misalignment, and those frustrating "shed-on-a-Saturday" fixes.

If you're after a quality snorkel, prices start from around \$526—well worth the upgrade for better engine breathing and reduced risk of costly water damage during creek crossings.

Final Tips for Buyers

- Always provide your vehicle year and engine details when enquiring about towing mirrors or snorkel kits.
- Insist on OEM or trusted aftermarket parts—not cheap copies—if you want waterproof and dustproof reliability.
- Get ARMAX or Safari parts that specifically say they're designed for your 70 Series model year.
- Consider wider towing mirrors as part of an overall towing and off-road setup, including dust filtration and engine protection.

If you want help or gear recommendations specific to your 70 Series, drop the details of your build and engine. Precision fitment saves you time and keeps your farm rig as reliable as possible.