

PREPARING RV FOR STORAGE

Properly preparing your vehicle for storage will lessen the possibility of damage to your vehicle. Prepare the motor home for vacancy just as you would if you were leaving your house for an extended period of time.

Clean and Prep Coach for Storage

1. Turn off the LP gas tank.
2. Turn the furnace thermostat switch on the bottom of the thermostat to OFF.
3. Remove all foods and items that may cause odors from cabinets and refrigerator.
4. Clean and defrost the refrigerator. Prop the door open slightly to allow any odors to dissipate. Place an open box of baking soda inside the refrigerator to help absorb odors.
5. Fully charge the batteries. Batteries must have at least 80 percent charge to survive freezing temperatures and long periods of non-use. We recommend that you connect a battery charger or plug in the shoreline once a month during long-term storage periods to maintain battery charge and to avoid sulfating. If connecting a charger directly to batteries, turn the Aux. Battery switch off to avoid electrical arcing when attaching and detaching charger clamps.

NOTE: We do not recommend leaving the shoreline plugged in continuously during storage periods because the batteries can lose electrolytic fluids and become damaged from continuous charging without periodic use. We recommend following regular battery inspection and maintenance especially in cold weather.

6. After charging batteries, turn the Aux. Battery Switch off to disconnect the batteries and avoid parasitic* drain. The inverter/charger must be shut off at the control panel to avoid draining the house batteries when the Aux. Battery switch is turned off. The inverter/charger is directly powered and is not affected by the Aux. Battery Switch.

*Parasitic battery drain is the gradual drain by items connected directly to battery power switch such as clocks, radio memory and the engine computer.

7. Have the vehicle chassis completely serviced and lubricated. Be sure radiator antifreeze protection level is sufficient for the lowest anticipated temperatures.

8. Wash and wax the coach.

9. Inspect all seams and seals around doors, windows, vents and any other joints. Replace or repair any that are damaged. Sealing materials and compounds can be purchased from your dealer. Badly damaged weather seals may need to be replaced by your dealer.

10. Close all windows and roof vents. Protect all appliance vent openings from contamination by animals or insects (e.g. bird nests, wasp nests, etc.)

11. Lubricate all door hinges and locks.

12. Clean the interior of the coach. Dirt and stains are more easily removed when fresh.

NOTE: When storing your vehicle through the winter or in cold climates, extra preparations need to be made to protect plumbing, appliances and systems that can be damaged by freezing temperatures. See "Winterizing" in your Owner's Manual.

Removal from Storage

1. Completely air out the motor home.
2. Have the entire LP gas system checked for leaks.
3. Check window operation.
4. Check cabinet and door hinges. Lubricate with penetrating oil, if necessary.
5. Close all faucets and drain valves that are open.
6. Add a few gallons of water to the fresh water tank and turn on the water pump to check for leaks, especially at fittings.
7. Open all faucets in turn to release trapped air and check to be sure faucet washers have not hardened during storage.
8. Sanitize the water system as outlined under "Disinfecting the Fresh Water System" in your Owner's Manual.
9. After disinfecting and flushing the water lines thoroughly with fresh water, remove the water filter diverter plug and install a new water filter cartridge. Store the diverter for future use. The diverter plug is intended for winterization only.
10. Check the toilet for proper operation.
11. Add water to the holding tank using the toilet flush pedal and galley sink faucet. Check to be sure dump valves seal tightly.
12. Check around all appliances for obstructions and ensure that all vent openings are clear.
13. Start refrigerator and check for proper cooling.
14. Clean paneling and counter surfaces.
15. Replace batteries if necessary and check out electrical system to make sure all lights and electrical components operate.
16. Check tires for proper cold inflation pressure. See Vehicle Certification Label.
17. After washing accumulated winter grime from the vehicle, it is important to carefully inspect the seams and sealants for separation or cracks that may have appeared around the window frames, vents and any other joints.

Re-sealing is quite simply and the material is quickly and easily applied. Appropriate compounds are available from your dealer.

Also inspect weather seals around doors, etc., and if necessary, have a dealer replace immediately.