

RANDY'S SPRINGTIME CHECK LIST

INSTALL THE BATTERY

When installing the battery, make sure you identify the positive and negative wires. (Remember the positive wire will be fused and the negative wire will typically be attached to the a frame)



In this photo, the red wire is hooked to the breaker (fuse) which tells us that it is the positive. The black wire is attached to the frame of camper which means it is negative.

CHECK ROOF SEALS

Inspect the roof sealant for cracks. Remember if it looks like it may need to be touched up, do it! Better safe than sorry. Apply the odorless mineral spirits to a rag and clean the existing sealant. Then wipe with a dry rag to remove any left over mineral spirits and dirt. (Remember don't let a wet rag sit on a rubber roof. Set the rag down on top of an A/C vent if necessary) Once the existing sealant is clean, apply a new lap sealant over the top of the existing clean sealant.

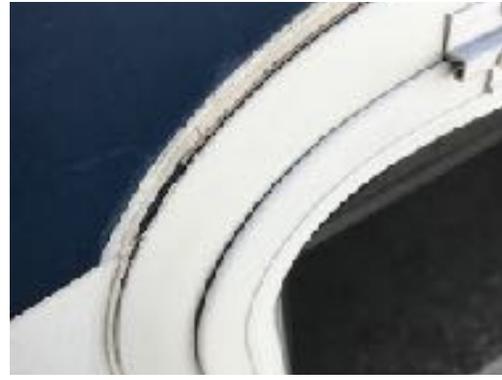
Don't let your roof look like this:



(Remember to use the proper sealant for the job.) For a rubber roof, you should use lap sealant. Your local dealer should be able to help you with the type of sealant you need. To ensure a good bond, this task should be done in warmer weather. This also lets the sealant self level.

SEALANT GAPS

Make sure to check the sealant on your sidewalls in the spring and fall. This is the sealant we find around windows, doors, and devices installed through the side walls of our campers. You will also want to check any transitions, i.e. side wall to rear or front wall.



On the sealant gaps, I look for anything that might let water in. Unlike the roof, I will remove as much of the existing caulking before I clean with odorless mineral spirits and re-seal. It is recommended to purchase caulking at your local RV dealer, make sure to get something formulated for the RV industry.

SUMMERIZE UNIT

Summerizing a camper is the process where you will use fresh water to push the non-toxic antifreeze out of the plumbing system.

REMEMBER MY 5 SECOND RULE

If you don't remember, the five-second rule is when you start the summerizing process. Run the fresh water for five seconds. After five seconds, enter the camper and look for leaks before continuing the summerizing process. This will help avoid a big mess if there was an issue with the winterizing process.

SANITIZE WATER SYSTEM

When our campers sit for a long period of time, they receive water from many sources which makes our camper the perfect breeding ground for bacteria, mold, and algae. I recommend sanitizing your water system throughout the camping season depending on how much you use your camper. If your local dealer does not carry sanitizing solution, use 1/4 cup bleach with 40 gallons of water for your fresh water tank.

Remember to fill fresh water tanks half way then add your solution or bleach. After that you can continue to fill your tank until it is full. Once the tank is full and the water heater is put back into the use position, run your water through all of the faucets until the solution is present at all openings on the hot and cold side. Let this sit for a redoubled time, then rinse your system as directed. If you are using bleach, let this sit for approximately six hours and then flush your system. Repeat the sanitation process if necessary.

QUICK FIRE YOUR APPLIANCES

Don't wait to test your important items. Run your furnace, water heater, and fridge. Remember to listen and smell. If something sounds or smells strange, we will need to investigate. I also recommend running the fan on the A/C at this time as well.

CHECK THOSE TIRES!

When checking tires, look for any cracks or bulges. Also make sure to fill proper air pressure. Keep your tires covered and away from direct contact with your lawn if your camper is sitting for a long period of time.



RUNNING GEAR

If you live in a state that doesn't require a state inspection for your trailer, it's a good idea to have it done anyway. You should have your brakes, wheel bearings, lights and the running gear under your camper checked to insure everything is in tip top shape for the camping season ahead. Wheel bearings should be serviced every two years with a yearly check for normal use.

SLIDE SYSTEM AND SEALS

If you have a through frame life or a rack system, lube the rotating gear pack. If you have an in wall or a cable slide system, no action is necessary unless the cables look loose and droopy



when the slide is fully extended. Seal conditioning is a good practice as well. Be careful not to get conditioner in the tracks of an in wall slide system. The conditioner can gum up the drive gears and cause false readings in the systems control module. This can hinder the operation of your slide over time.

WAX THE UNIT

Waxing your RV can be a big help in many ways. Waxing protects your sidewall material by sealing the pores. It also helps with the longevity of decals. Waxing helps when it comes to black streaks and bugs that find the front of your camper when traveling. When waxing, don't do it all in one day. Break it up a little and don't let your decals look like this



TREAT YOUR ROOF

Remember to treat your roof and clean it with a recommended roof cleaner from your local dealer. Use a solution formulated for rubber roofs and don't forget the UV protection. I prefer a two part cleaner and UV protectant. Our roof takes most of the abuse when the camper is sitting at idle. Make sure you treat it and protect it for a long life.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST!

I hope my tips and tricks help you out and help you enjoy your camping season!

~Randy

