

# Spring Preparation Checklist for Motorhomes

## ENGINE & DRIVETRAIN

### Engine Checks

- Change engine oil and filter
- Check all fluid levels (transmission, power steering, brake, coolant)
- Inspect belts for wear, cracks, or glazing
- Check hoses for softness, swelling, or deterioration
- Inspect for fluid leaks (oil, coolant, transmission)
- Replace fuel filters as recommended
- Check air filter and replace if needed
- Test engine cooling system for proper operation
- Check radiator and inspect radiator cap
- Inspect water pump and thermostat operation



### Battery System

- Clean battery terminals and connections
- Check battery fluid levels in non-sealed batteries
- Load test chassis battery
- Load test house batteries
- Inspect battery trays and hold-downs
- Check charging system operation
- Test battery disconnect switches
- Verify battery monitor accuracy

### Transmission & Drivetrain

- Check transmission fluid level and condition
- Inspect differential fluid level (rear-wheel/4-wheel drive)
- Check transfer case fluid (4-wheel drive)
- Inspect drive shaft and U-joints
- Check CV joints and boots (if applicable)
- Test transmission shifting through all gears

# CHASSIS & SUSPENSION

## Braking System

- Inspect brake pads/shoes for wear
- Check brake rotors/drums for scoring or damage
- Inspect brake lines and hoses for leaks or cracks
- Test parking brake operation
- Check brake fluid level and condition
- Test brake pedal feel and response
- Inspect air brake system (if applicable)
- Drain air brake tanks (if applicable)

## Suspension & Steering

- Inspect shocks for leaks or damage
- Check suspension air bags (if equipped)
- Test air suspension controls and levels
- Inspect leaf springs for cracks or abnormal sagging
- Check steering components for wear or play
- Inspect steering fluid level and condition
- Test steering wheel operation (play and response)
- Verify leveling system operation
- Lubricate suspension grease points

## Tires & Wheels

- Check tire pressure in all tires (including spare)
- Inspect tires for cracks, bulges, or excessive wear
- Verify correct tire pressure for load
- Check tire age - replace if older than 5-7 years regardless of tread
- Verify lug nuts are properly torqued
- Rotate tires if needed
- Inspect wheels for damage or cracks
- Test tire pressure monitoring system (if equipped)

# EXTERIOR INSPECTION

## Body & Structure

- Inspect roof for damage, leaks, or separated seams
- Check and reseal any questionable roof or body seams
- Clean and condition rubber roof (if applicable)
- Inspect fiberglass/aluminum siding for damage
- Check windows, seals, and weather stripping

- Test all exterior compartment doors and latches
- Check condition of entry door and screen door
- Lubricate door hinges and locks
- Inspect windshield for cracks or damage
- Check windshield wiper condition and operation

## Exterior Components

- Clean and check awning operation and fabric condition
- Test slide-out operation and seals
- Inspect slide-out toppers (if equipped)
- Check exterior storage compartment doors and seals
- Test entry steps and mechanism
- Verify mirrors and mirror adjustments
- Test exterior shower (if equipped)
- Inspect ladder condition and mounting (if equipped)
- Check roof rack and accessories (if equipped)

## Exterior Lighting

- Test headlights (low and high beam)
- Check turn signals and hazard lights
- Test brake lights and running lights
- Verify backup lights operation
- Check side marker lights
- Test awning light and exterior utility lights
- Inspect license plate light
- Replace any burned-out bulbs

# INTERIOR SYSTEMS

## Plumbing System

- Sanitize and flush fresh water system
- Check for leaks in all water lines and fittings
- Inspect water heater, flush tank, and check anode rod
- Test water pump operation and check filter
- Check toilet operation and seal
- Test all faucets and shower fixtures
- Verify proper drain trap operation
- Inspect grey and black tank valves for proper operation
- Check tank sensors for accuracy
- Install new water filter (if applicable)
- Check city water connection and pressure regulator

# Electrical System

- Test all 12V interior lights and fixtures
- Check 120V outlets with circuit tester
- Test GFCI outlets
- Verify converter/inverter operation
- Inspect power cord and surge protector
- Test generator operation and perform maintenance
- Check fuses and circuit breakers
- Test transfer switch operation
- Inspect all wiring for damage from rodents
- Test solar system (if applicable)

# Propane System

- Check propane tanks for recertification date
- Inspect propane lines and fittings for damage
- Test for propane leaks using soapy water solution
- Check regulator for proper operation
- Verify shut-off valve function
- Test auto changeover system (if equipped)
- Verify propane detector operation

# Appliances

- Clean refrigerator coils
- Check refrigerator operation on propane, electric, and 12V
- Test air conditioner operation
- Replace A/C filter
- Test furnace operation and clean
- Check stove/oven operation
- Test microwave/convection oven
- Verify range hood fan and light
- Test water heater on propane and electric
- Check TV antenna/satellite system (if equipped)
- Test entertainment systems
- Check washer/dryer operation (if equipped)

# INTERIOR COMFORT & SAFETY

## General Interior

- Check for signs of leaks or water damage on ceiling and walls
- Test all windows for proper operation
- Lubricate window slides and latches
- Check condition of blinds and shades

- Inspect furniture for damage or wear
- Test bed mechanisms (if convertible)
- Check cabinet latches and hinges
- Verify all interior doors open and close properly
- Clean or replace furnace filter
- Inspect dashboard for cracks or damage
- Test driver and passenger seats (adjustments, swivel)

## Safety Equipment

- Check fire extinguisher pressure gauge
- Verify first aid kit is complete and medications not expired
- Replace batteries in smoke/CO/LP detectors
- Test all safety detectors
- Inspect emergency exit windows for proper operation
- Check roadside emergency kit supplies
- Verify spare tire is properly inflated and accessible
- Test jack and lug wrench for accessibility and function
- Check seat belts for damage or wear
- Inspect mirrors and mirror adjustments

## Driving Controls

- Check all dashboard gauges and warning lights
- Test cruise control operation
- Verify horn operation
- Check turn signal operation and cancellation
- Test windshield wipers and washers
- Check rear view camera system
- Test backup sensors (if equipped)
- Verify dash AC and heat operation
- Test radio and navigation system

# PRE-TRIP PREPARATIONS

## Documentation

- Update RV insurance
- Check registration expiration
- Verify roadside assistance coverage
- Update campground reservation information
- Ensure driver's license is current
- Check chassis manufacturer recalls
- Check RV manufacturer recalls

# General Preparations

- Clean and vacuum interior thoroughly
- Wash exterior and apply protective wax
- Stock fresh batteries for flashlights and portable devices
- Update GPS maps and camping apps
- Plan travel route with low clearance considerations
- Schedule any needed service appointments
- Create a maintenance log to track completed items
- Check weight distribution and loading

## Final Pre-Trip Check

- Verify all slides are fully retracted and locked
- Ensure all exterior compartments are locked
- Check that TV antenna is down
- Verify awnings are fully retracted and secured
- Secure all loose items inside RV
- Check that steps are retracted
- Disconnect and stow shore power cord
- Close and secure propane valve
- Check tire pressure one final time
- Adjust mirrors before departure

**Note:** This checklist should be customized based on your specific motorhome model and equipment. Always consult your owner's manual for manufacturer-specific recommendations.

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