RV Inspection Checklist

The basic checks you must make when viewing a used motorhome or campervan

Thank you for downloading this free RV Inspection Checklist from **www.motorhomehobos.com**

Now you can go to view any motorhome or campervan with more confidence about what to look out for, especially on older vehicles.

Save this PDF to your phone or print it off and take with you when you go to view. Tick off each point on the checklist below as you inspect the RV.

The checklist is divided into 2 parts that cover the outside and inside of the vehicle. You don't want to miss a thing! And we've left spaces so you can add notes and observations as you go.

And remember, for a far more detailed 4-step process in searching for and inspecting a vehicle grab a copy of our ebook **How To Find Your Perfect Motorhome**. It could save you thousands!

Let's get started by inspecting the outside of the motorhome first…

Checks to make on the outside of the RV:

Before looking at anything close-up, the first thing to do is step back and take a general look at how the RV sits; **does it sit level or is the back suspension sagging?** (This is sometimes a problem on older motorhomes).

Then get into the detail…

Look for rust, corrosion, wear and tear:

- ☐ Check wheel arches and sills
- ☐ Check around windows
- ☐ Inspect body panels and trim, including any trim along the roof edges and skylights (any defect in trim could lead to water ingress)
- ☐ Do all outside lockers open and close properly?
- ☐ Clamber underneath and check the condition of the exhaust, chassis, and bodywork
- ☐ Are the tyres in good condition? Any cracks? Flat spots?

Notes and observations:

Check for accident damage:

- ☐ Inspect vulnerable areas like rear bumpers
- ☐ Look closely at windows (especially habitation windows that are often made of plastic) – make sure they open and close correctly
- ☐ Check the overcab area (that might have been hit by branches)
- ☐ Look for cracks/damage to the side mirrors (that are vulnerable to being hit on narrow roads)
- ☐ Check to make sure all doors – including the habitation door - open, close and lock correctly (from inside and out)
- ☐ If you can, get up and inspect the state of the roof and check skylights, solar panels etc. (Make sure all skylights open and close properly)

Notes and observations:

Checks to make on the inside of the RV:

It's a good idea to ask the seller if the motorhome has had a recent habitation check. This would highlight any problems with damp and/or appliances. A hab check will cost you around £150 to £200 by a qualified technician (who will also make sure the gas system is safe to use).

Check for water ingress:

Consider making a small investment in a damp meter or ask the seller if they have one that you can use to test for damp problems.

You can usually smell damp when you enter an RV. But even if you can't, look for discolouring and soft-patches in the following places…

- ☐ Look around all the windows
- ☐ Inspect the overcab sleeping area and all ceiling areas (especially around any skylights)
- ☐ Look for discolouring and soft patches on the walls
- ☐ Inspect the inside of kitchen cupboards/lockers, especially where the wall of the vehicle meets the ceiling
- ☐ Look closely inside the WC/shower area for damp, discoloration, and soft-to-touch patches

Notes and observations:

Other checks inside the RV…

- ☐ Check for brittle plastics: are there any hairline cracks in the shower tray, bathroom sink, or toilet?
- ☐ Do all cupboard doors close properly?
- ☐ Do all the appliances work? Test the water system to make sure the taps and water pump work properly
- ☐ Test the gas hob/oven and heating system
- ☐ Test the interior lighting
- ☐ Is the flooring and upholstery in good condition?
- ☐ Are there rear seatbelts and do they work correctly?
- ☐ Check the state of the toilet cassette. Is it clean?

Notes and observations:

Obviously, you'll want to **inspect the engine**. We suggest that unless you are experienced yourself, take a qualified mechanic with you or a trusted friend who knows what to look for.

And it goes without saying that **you should carry out a thorough test drive of the vehicle.** This means getting out on the open road and up to speed. If the seller says no to a test drive our advice is to walk away – *even if the van has passed the inspection so far.*

General questions to ask yourself and the seller…

- ☐ Before you go to see the RV do some online research and ask yourself, "Can I easily source spare parts for this vehicle?"
- ☐ Have you budgeted for the cost of any repairs you might need to make?

- ☐ If the RV is high mileage is there a good service history?
- ☐ Ask the seller what's the reason for the sale
- ☐ What's the van like going uphill? (Older motorhomes can struggle going up steeper hills. You may be able to check this on a proper test drive)
- ☐ Does the motorhome come with a warranty? (A dealer should include a warranty even on an older motorhome but a private seller will not)

Making these basic checks should give you the confidence to spot a good motorhome from a dud.

But if you want more detailed checklists – and a simple 4-step process to find your ideal RV from the initial research right up to closing the deal - please consider purchasing our ebook: **How To Find Your Perfect Motorhome**

When you know what to look for you can negotiate a better deal with the seller. Indeed, the knowledge we share in the book got us £1500 off the asking price of the van we bought.

GRAB THE EBOOK NOW

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