

**RV Safety & Education Foundation**  
**Pre-Trip Safety Checklist**  
**Motorhome**

Before Every Trip

1. Engine Compartment
  - Fluid levels – oil, engine coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, any specific fluids i.e. hydraulic
  - Belts – check for cracks or loose fitting
  - Check for leaks in, around, and under the engine.
  - Check for debris lodged in or around engine components i.e. leaves
  - Check radiator for debris and damaged coils
  - Check all hoses for cracks, leaks, and tight fit
  - Check battery if applicable to engine compartment for fluid, corrosion, and tight connection
  - Diesel engines
    - Check air filter indicator
    - Air tank moisture
2. Tires – check cold, 3 hours without usage
  - Sidewall cracks
  - Tread depth – 4/32 steering tires, 2/32 others
  - Rims/bead for damage
  - Valve stem, cap, and extensions
  - Proper air pressure
3. External Lights
  - Headlights
  - Fog lights
  - Clearance lights
  - Driving lights if applicable
  - Parking lights
  - Turn signals front, back, and side
  - Docking lights
  - Tail lights/brake lights
  - Emergency flashers
  - Reflectors
4. Glass
  - Mirrors – check to ensure they are secure, clean, and adjusted properly/working for electric
  - Windshield – clean inside and out, check for cracks or rock chips
  - Clean all brake lights, turn signals, backup lights, and headlamps
  - Windshield wipers – ensure they are working, good blades, and fluid
5. Exterior Walk Around
  - Awnings – retracted and locked
  - Slides – retracted and secured
  - Jacks – retracted
  - Hookups – disconnected, stowed, and compartment secured
  - Compartments – all items stowed, secured, lights off, compartments shut, and locked
  - Visual Inspection Under Coach
    - Check for loose items i.e. lawn chairs
    - Check for rocks, logs, or large items
    - Look for any fluid leaks

- Check chassis for loose equipment or wiring
- Height – look for any possible obstruction while leaving
- Noises – with the engine running, check for unusual noises
- Shut of propane at the tank
- House Battery – check fluid level, corrosion, and connection
- Electric Step

6. Towed Vehicle

- Tow bar connection – check connection at the motorhome, at the vehicle, and safety chains
- Lights – ensure proper turn signals, brake lights, and emergency flashers
- Tire pressure – ensure proper inflation, sidewall condition, tread depth
- Proper towing procedure – i.e. unit is in neutral, fuses removed etc
- Emergency brake – disengaged
- Auxiliary braking system – unit is operating properly
- Lock the doors

7. Interior Walk Around

- TV antenna – retracted
- Secure all loose items inside the unit
- Close all doors and cabinet drawers
- Verify driver's license, registration, and proof of insurance
- Check First Aid Kits, fire extinguishers, smoke and CO alarms
- Emergency Information – prepare a list of emergency phone numbers, personal information i.e. contact person, medication and dosage

8. Buckle Up!