

COMFORT INSURANCE

Comfort's Top Motorhome Tips



01.

Duct tape and cable ties; there's not a lot they can't fix!



02.

Taking your dog away with you? It needs to be checked by a vet no more than 5 days and no less than 24hrs before you depart. The vet will fill in the dog passport and you are ready to go. If it is especially warm, a damp microfiber towel which has been wrung out draped over your dog will really help it stay cool without risking anything serious like pneumonia.

03.

www.motorwayservicesonline.co.uk is a great resource when planning your journey, listing amongst other things places you can stop at overnight for free.



04.

Small cars to tow. Transport upon arrival is an important thing to consider. Check your motorhomes towing capacity, and remember you will need an a-frame to tow it. Some recommended models from forum favourites include the Nissan Micra and Fiat Panda. There are also Aixam cars which are a bit pricier but a good long term investment.



05.

VW Camper clutch judder. This is a common feature of many forums, and it generally seems like the problem is worse in cold weather. One solution on offer is to pump the clutch to warm it up before you switch on the engine. If it is a new vehicle or a new clutch, contact the vendor because although they may try to fob you off with the 'wear and tear' excuse, there is no time limit on statutory rights under the Sale of Goods Act.



06.

Weight. You should know the weight of your motorhome when full, and be aware of any weight restrictions which apply. Also check your driving license, because unless you have the older C1 + E type, then you are limited to driving a vehicle with a maximum weight of 3,500kg.

07.

Fire extinguishers. Check that they are still in date. If not, then replace them and dispose of them in a suitable location



08.

Security. Tie a heavy duty dog chain around your steps with a collar attached, and leave a large water bowl down with it. You don't need to own a dog, just to appear to. That should be enough to deter an opportunist thief!

09.

Make the most of the facilities on offer if you stay on a campsite, such as refilling water and disposing of waste, as you never know when the next stop will be.



11.

Buy the biggest solar panel you can afford to. It is far better to have the option of extra wattage than to run out of power. One bigger panel will provide you with more energy than 2 smaller ones.



10.

2nd hand motorhomes are a great purchase and offer far better value for money than a brand new one, plus they don't depreciate in value as quickly.



12.

Bring a watering can. It is much more useful than a hose!

13.

Pack a carton of long life milk. Powdered milk doesn't cut the mustard, and you don't want to find yourself gasping for a cuppa with no milk in drinking distance!



15.

Parking on a grass hill? Make sure you park facing downhill, otherwise you will find yourself stuck in the mud



14.

Know the dimensions of your motorhome. Write them down and have them somewhere accessible. This is far easier than whipping out a tape measure and a step ladder every time you need them.



16.

If you are travelling abroad, carry photocopies of your passport, driving license, registration and insurance policy. That way if the worst happens and your motorhome is broken into, you will have the necessary paperwork to start sorting it out.

17.

www.campingcar-infos.com this is an amazing resource. It's a motorhome stopover directory, detailing over 16,000 rest stops and 'aires' available for motorhome users throughout Europe



18.

If you are using a satnav, make sure it knows you are in a motorhome. Getting stuck in country lanes is no fun!



19.

Carry copies of any important phone numbers, such as your insurer etc.



20.

Pack enough emergency food rations to cater for the number of passengers you have. Nobody plans to have an accident or break down, and depending on the circumstances this extra food could come in very handy indeed.

21.

Motorhome kitchens are typically quite compact, so keep this in mind when buying pots and pans as you don't want to end up with something too big to be used.



22.

Toothpaste is a great way to polish out scratches on plastic windows.

23.

Carry a spare tyre!



24.

Foam pipe insulator is a great way to stop clothes on a rail from moving around whilst in transit. It can be purchased from any DIY shop

25.

Always carry an emergency supply of drinking water on board



27.

Bring a bucket! It can come in useful for more things than you may imagine.



26.

If you are struggling to find an overnight spot to park in, try asking in the nearest pub. According to people's personal experience, landlords are often happy to accommodate and let a motorhome park up for the night.



28.

If you're worried about thieves, try leaving your screens and front blind up, with some talk radio playing quietly in the background. It will look like you are just resting inside.

29.

Have 2 or 3 leisure batteries.



31.

Tool kit containing the following items:

- a. A full socket set
- b. Adjustable spanners
- c. Mole grips
- d. Pliers
- e. The correct screwdrivers
- f. Electrical insulating tape
- g. Correct tool for the filler plug



30.

Take a working compass and a paper map, because they don't need signal and can't run out of battery.

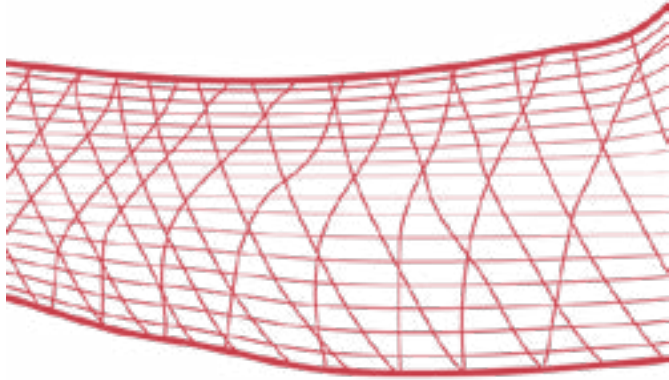


32.

Keep your sauces in a big ice cream tub or another type of plastic box. It is a great way to minimise spillages, stops them rattling around as much and makes for better storage.

33.

Bungee cords. Their uses are endless!



34.

Small cargo style nets are a great storage solution

35.

Do the cupboards in your kitchen keep coming open on the road? Try a telescopic curtain rod across the front of the cupboard doors.



36.

Pack plenty of wet wipes!

37.

Plastic plates are a good alternative to real crockery; no washing up and they weigh much less than porcelain does.



38.

Small solar powered garden lamps are popular these days, and are also a great way to light the interior of your caravan at night which saves you wasting power switching lights on and off.

39.

Line the kitchen cupboards and shelves with non-slip matting to stop stuff slipping and sliding.



40.

Put socks around glass bottles when travelling to stop them rattling.

41.

Silver car covering material can be cut to size to make some excellent curtains which also reflect heat, keeping your motorhome cool. The material is very lightweight so can easily be attached with some Velcro.



43.

Old trouser belts make good replacements for the straps in your gas boiler locker.



42.

Reversing aids can make for brilliant burglar alarms. Position the sensors strategically on the outside of your motorhome and hook it up to your leisure battery. If someone starts to get too close the alarm will let you know!



44.

There's few things worse than a mouldy fridge! To stop it getting mouldy when not in use, simply fill the inside with crunched up newspaper. It even works when the door is shut.

45.

If you know your fridge/freezer will be off for some time, like on a longer ferry crossing (e.g. Harwich to Holland), freeze your milk and water and leave the bottles in the fridge. It will help keep everything in your fridge cold.



47.

Carry four pieces of plywood in your motorhome to be used when parking on grass. It stops your motorhome from sinking and gives the tyres something to grip when driving off again.



46.

Towel tip! Use a flannel to dry off first after a shower, wringing it out as you go, and then use a full sized towel to finish the job.

A wet flannel will dry quicker inside your motorhome than a large towel.

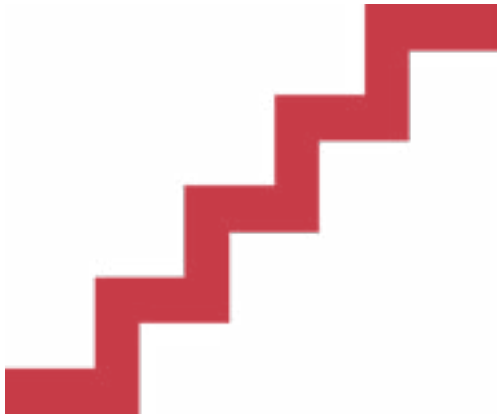


48.

A clip coat hanger for trousers is great for hanging towels from to dry them.

49.

Invest in a wind up torch. They are not expensive and you will never have to worry about flat batteries again.



50.

Fix a long bristled mat on the stairs leading up to the leisure door to keep the outdoors out and off your floor.

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