

# RV TO Freedom

## RV SHOW CHEAT SHEET

RV Shows can be a fun, but overwhelming experience. We have created this guide and cheat sheet to help you remember what to look for when you are checking out all of those RVs and to help you remember what you saw by the time you get home.

### **TIPS FOR THE SHOW:**

If you can, find out which dealers are coming to the show and find out if they are bringing models you are interested in viewing.

Get a map of the show and find the RVs you are looking for and make sure to hit those first.

You don't have to pick up every brochure at the show. They will get heavy by the end and almost all of the information can be easily found online on the manufacturers' websites.

Use our cheat sheet while you walk through the RVs to help you remember to check for the things that are important to you.

Keep a running list of your top 3 RVs. Constantly update the list as you find RVs that are better suited for you than the ones in your top 3.

Remember what type of camping you want to do. This lifestyle is different than living in a house. For instance, features that may make sense in a house, like a residential fridge, can make it a bit more difficult to boondock.

Take a picture of the sales sheet or model sticker on the RV before you start taking pictures of the RV. This will help you to keep track of which pictures go with which RVs. They will all start to blur together after a while.

Save the million dollar luxury RVs for the end of the show after you have seen your prospects. Unless you came for the million dollar RVs!

### **WHAT TO BRING:**

Comfortable shoes

Cheat sheets, notebook, and pen

Camera to photograph RVs of which you are interested

Water/Snacks - There is always food at the shows, but it's usually overpriced

A bag to carry brochures

Most of all, don't feel pressured to buy at the show. Those show prices are normal and available all of the time. All of these RVs came off of local dealers' lots and they will all go back there after the show. If the one you are looking at gets sold, just be patient. They are all mass produced, so you will find another one.

*Even if you aren't planning on buying a new RV, it can be helpful to attend RV shows to see many different types of RVs and floor plans all in one place. This can help you figure out what you like and don't like.*



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## HOW TO USE THE RV SHOW CHEAT SHEAT

### SHOW INFO

Record the dealer and salesman info for any rv of which you are particularly interested. Recording the date and time can help you to match up this sheet with you photos.

### RV INFO

Use this area is to capture the RV Brand, Model, Year as well as the Dealer Stock number in case you want to contact the dealer later about this unit.

You can also note the engine size and chassis manufacturer. This is especially helpful on diesel models.

### PRICE INFO

This section is important to help you get a feel for "show pricing." By recording the MSRP and show price and then figuring out the percentage off, you will begin to see a trend in RV show pricing. It is quite common to see prices that are 20-30% off. Don't let these "show prices" get you too excited.

### WEIGHTS

Weights are very important to all RVers. It is important to know the capacity of the RV with all your stuff in it.

**OCOC** (Occupant and Cargo Carrying Capacity) Motorhomes and trailers will have a sticker on them that lists this capacity. If you cannot find it, ask a salesman to point it out to you. This is the weight capacity of "stuff" you can carry in the motorhome or trailer. For motorhomes, this includes the weight of the occupants, fuel, propane, water, and your cargo (clothes, food, etc). Trailer considerations are propane, water, and cargo.

**GVWR** (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating) This is the weight of the RV or trailer at maximum capacity. In some states there are special licensing requirements if a motorhome is over 26,000 pounds.

**GCWR** (Gross Combined Weight Rating) This is the maximum weight of the motorhome and any trailer or towed vehicle behind it. If you subtract the GVWR from the GCWR you can find out the maximum size vehicle or trailer you can tow. Some motorhomes can only tow up to 4000 pounds even though they may have a higher rated hitch.

**TONGUE OR PIN WEIGHT** This is the downward force on the hitch of a truck or suv that would be towing a trailer. This weight is important to make sure your tow vehicle is up to the challenge of pulling your trailer.

### TANKS

Here you can list the capacity of the tanks in the RV. This information can be found in the RV brochure or on the manufacturer's website. Tank sizes are important when factoring the cargo carrying capacity and if you are considering camping while not connected to full hook-ups.

### ELECTRICAL

You can record the type of electrical service, number of batteries in the RV and their size if you can find it. This will also help you to remember to look to see if it has an inverter and generator.

### SLIDES

If the RVs you are looking at have slides, it is helpful to see if you can still access the critical areas of the RV while you are traveling. If these areas are accessible, it can make travelling more enjoyable on long days where you can stop and go to the bathroom or easily make lunch on the road.

### RATINGS

This is an area where you can quickly go down the list and rate the livability of the RV. It's important to stand in the shower and sit on the toilet to make sure they are comfortable to use. It is also important to check the storage accessibilty to make sure you are comfortable with the location and size of the storage doors when you have to pack and unpack the RV.

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## RV SHOW CHEAT SHEAT

### SHOW INFO

SHOW NAME _____	DATE/TIME _____
DEALER NAME _____	DEALER PHONE _____
SALESMAN NAME _____	SALESMAN PHONE _____

### RV INFO

BRAND \_\_\_\_\_

MODEL \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ STOCK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS A   
  CLASS B   
  CLASS C   
  FIFTH WHEEL   
  TRAVEL TRAILER   
 \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER

GAS   
  DIESEL   
 \_\_\_\_\_ ENGINE SIZE / MANUFACTURER   
 \_\_\_\_\_ CHASSIS MANUFACTURER

### PRICE INFO

MSRP \_\_\_\_\_

SHOW PRICE \_\_\_\_\_

DIFFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

DISCOUNT % \_\_\_\_\_

MSRP - SHOW PRICE = DIFFERENCE  
 DIFFERENCE / MSRP X 100 = DISCOUNT %

### RATINGS

**OVERALL** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (10)

**LIVING ROOM** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**KITCHEN** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**BEDROOM** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**CLOSET SPACE** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**BATHROOM** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**SHOWER SIZE** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**TOILET ACCESSIBLTY** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**INTERIOR STORAGE** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**EXTERIOR STORAGE** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

**STORAGE ACCESSIBILITY** (1) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (5)

### WEIGHTS

OCCC \_\_\_\_\_  
OCCUPANT AND CARGO CARRYING CAPACITY

GVWR \_\_\_\_\_  
GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING

GCWR \_\_\_\_\_  
GROSS COMBINED WEIGHT RATING

TONGUE \_\_\_\_\_  
TONGUE OR PIN WEIGHT ON TRAILERS

### TANKS

FRESH \_\_\_\_\_  
SIZE

GREY \_\_\_\_\_  
SIZE

BLACK \_\_\_\_\_  
SIZE

PROPANE \_\_\_\_\_  
SIZE

### ELECTRICAL

30 AMP   
  50 AMP

BATTERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
QUANTITY/SIZE

INVERTER \_\_\_\_\_  
SIZE

GENERATOR \_\_\_\_\_  
SIZE

SOLAR  \_\_\_\_\_  
PRE-WIRED    SIZE

### SLIDES

CAN YOU ACCESS THE FOLLOWING WITH THE SLIDES IN?

	YES	NO
FRIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATHROOM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BEDROOM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOTHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### FEATURES

AIR CONDITIONER \_\_\_\_\_ QTY   
 HEAT PUMP    
 FURNACE \_\_\_\_\_ QTY   
 WATER HEATER     
GAS    ELECTRIC    TANKLESS

FRIDGE     
 STOVE     
 OVEN     
 MICROWAVE    
 WATER FILTRATION   
GAS/ELEC    RESIDENTIAL    GAS    ELECTRIC    GAS    CONVECTION

TV \_\_\_\_\_ QTY   
 EXTERIOR TV    
 EXTERIOR KITCHEN    
 SATELLITE    
 SLEEPS \_\_\_\_\_ BUNKS  
QTY

4 SEASONS RATED    
 HEATED HOLDING TANKS    
 HEATED BAYS    
 DOUBLE PANE GLASS

### LAYOUT SKETCH

### NOTES

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