

RV Departure Checklist - All Types

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Essential pre-travel checklist for leaving any campsite safely.

Interior Preparation

- ☐ Retract all slide-outs (check exterior clearance - EXPENSIVE DAMAGE RISK)
- ☐ Secure all loose items in cabinets and drawers (road vibration)
- ☐ Latch refrigerator door and secure contents (prevents spills/damage)
- ☐ Close all interior cabinet doors and ensure latches work
- ☐ Turn off propane at tanks AND appliances (double safety check)
- ☐ Close and secure all windows and roof vents (weather protection)

Utility Disconnection

- ☐ Turn off water pump and close tank valves
- ☐ Disconnect and stow electrical cord (check for damage)
- ☐ Disconnect and stow sewer hose (rinse if needed, cap both ends)
- ☐ Disconnect and drain water hose last (prevents freezing)
- ☐ Disconnect cable TV if connected
- ☐ Close and lock all exterior utility compartments

Final Safety Checks

- ☐ Retract awning completely and secure (HIGH WIND DAMAGE RISK)
- ☐ Retract all leveling jacks and stabilizers completely
- ☐ Check tire pressure including spare (BLOWOUT PREVENTION)
- ☐ Test trailer lights and turn signals (LEGAL REQUIREMENT)

- ☐ Do complete 360-degree walk-around inspection
- ☐ Check hitch connection and safety chains (DETACHMENT PREVENTION)
- ☐ Confirm nothing left at campsite (check fire pit, picnic table)

Common Departure Mistakes to Avoid

- ☐ Don't forget to retract TV antenna (expensive replacement)
- ☐ Check that no one is inside RV when retracting slides
- ☐ Verify all windows and vents are closed (rain damage)
- ☐ Don't leave water heater on electric when disconnecting
- ☐ Take final photo of campsite (Leave No Trace verification)
- ☐ Check weather forecast for departure route