

Van & Class B Camper Setup

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Setup checklist for campervans, Class B motorhomes, and converted vans.

Parking & Basic Setup

- ☐ Choose level parking spot with good access and legal overnight parking
- ☐ Set parking brake and engage emergency brake (engine off completely)
- ☐ Level van using blocks or ramps if needed (fridge efficiency)
- ☐ Open doors/windows for ventilation (prevent condensation buildup)
- ☐ Deploy side or rear awning if equipped (wind speed under 15mph)
- ☐ Set up outdoor furniture maintaining low profile if stealth camping

Power & Systems

- ☐ Connect to shore power if available (test with surge protector)
- ☐ Check battery levels and charging status (12.6V+ fully charged)
- ☐ Set up portable solar panels if equipped (angle for maximum sun)
- ☐ Test all 12V systems and LED lighting (conserve power)
- ☐ Switch refrigerator to appropriate power mode (shore vs battery)
- ☐ Plan power management for stay duration (avoid deep discharge)

Living Space Configuration

- ☐ Convert seating to bed mode if needed (practice before trip)
- ☐ Set up interior storage organization for daily access
- ☐ Deploy privacy screens or window covers (security & comfort)
- ☐ Set up outdoor cooking and dining area (fire safety outdoors)

- ☐ Test water pump and check fresh/gray tank levels
- ☐ Organize gear for easy daily access without unpacking everything

Van Life Pro Tips

- ☐ Park facing east to catch morning sun on solar panels
- ☐ Use reflective window covers to regulate temperature
- ☐ Keep a low profile in urban areas (stealth camping)
- ☐ Have backup camping spots researched (Plan B locations)
- ☐ Use apps like Campendium, FreeRoam for legal camping spots
- ☐ Keep basic tools accessible for quick roadside fixes