

FIRST-TIME RV CAMPING CHECKLIST

EVERYTHING A FIRST-TIME RV CAMPER NEEDS. CHECK OFF EACH ITEM AS YOU PACK AND SET UP.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- Tire pressure (all tires + spare)
- Propane (fill or exchange)
- Test all lights (use a spotter)
- Fluid levels (oil, coolant)
- House battery (fully charged)
- RV-safe GPS route (low bridges)
- Printed reservation (site + phone)
- Fridge on 24 hours ahead

RV HOOKUP ESSENTIALS

- Food-safe water hose (white/blue)
- Water pressure regulator
- Sewer hose + fittings + gloves
- Sewer hose support (ramp)
- 30/50-amp adapters (carry both)
- Surge protector (non-negotiable)
- Extension cord (outdoor-rated)
- Inline drinking water filter

LEVELING, SETUP & COMFORT

- Leveling blocks (stackable)
- Wheel chocks (both sides)
- Bubble level or leveling app
- Stabilizer jack pads
- Entry mat + outdoor rug
- Outdoor chairs (2 extra)
- Awning or string lights
- Portable fan (cabin airflow)

KITCHEN & COOKING SUPPLIES

- Pots, pans, and a skillet
- Utensils (spatula, tongs, knife)
- Unbreakable plates and cups
- Dish soap, sponge, towel
- Coffee maker (drip or press)
- Cooler (for drinks and snacks)
- Trash bags (heavy-duty 13 gal)
- Foil, zip bags, basic spices

BEDROOM & BATHROOM

- Bedding (measure RV bed first)
- Mattress topper (RV beds run thin)
- Towels (quick-dry saves space)
- RV-safe toilet paper (critical)
- Holding tank treatment
- Toiletries + shower mat

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Smoke + CO detectors (test both)
- Fire extinguisher (check gauge)
- Flares / reflective triangles
- Roadside kit (tools, cables)
- First aid kit + prescriptions
- Flashlights + extra batteries



CAMPSITE ARRIVAL SEQUENCE

- 1. Position the RV (use a spotter)
- 2. Level side-to-side (blocks)
- 3. Chock the wheels
- 4. Unhitch (set trailer jack)
- 5. Lower stabilizers (on pads)
- 6. Connect water (regulator first)
- 7. Connect electric (surge first)
- 8. Connect sewer (valve closed)
- 9. Open slides (after leveling)
- 10. Start water heater and A/C

DEPARTURE SEQUENCE

- 1. Retract slides (clear paths)
- 2. Retract and secure awning
- 3. Dump tanks (black, then gray)
- 4. Disconnect and drain water
- 5. Unplug electric (store cord)
- 6. Raise stabilizer jacks fully
- 7. Latch cabinets, lock fridge
- 8. Hitch up and test lights
- 9. Walk-around (steps, antenna)
- 10. Drive out slowly (mirrors)

PERSONAL NOTES & ADDITIONS

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE, CONFIRM YOUR SITE'S HOOKUPS!

Most Happy Grounds campgrounds offer full-hookup sites with 30/50-amp electric, water, and sewer. Visit camphappygrounds.com to explore RV-friendly sites at all 14+ locations.