

RV Winterizing Checklist

Done	#	Checklist Item
☐	1	Understand the goal. Remove water from the RV plumbing before freezing weather so lines, valves, faucets, and fittings do not crack.
☐	2	Gather your supplies. Get basic tools, a flashlight, an air compressor with a regulator, a blowout plug, and pink RV/marine antifreeze.
☐	3	Use only RV antifreeze. Do not use car antifreeze. Use pink antifreeze made for RV fresh-water systems.
☐	4	Choose the antifreeze rating. Use -50°F for milder cold or -100°F if you are unsure or want extra protection.
☐	5	Drain the freshwater tank. Open the freshwater tank drain and let the tank empty completely.
☐	6	Open the low point drains. Look under the RV for the hot and cold drain tubes, usually red and blue, and open them.
☐	7	Set safe air pressure. Set the air compressor regulator to 60–80 PSI before connecting it to the RV.
☐	8	Connect the blowout plug. Screw the plug into the city water connection by hand, then connect the air hose.
☐	9	Blow out one fixture at a time. Open the kitchen sink, bathroom sink, shower, outside shower, toilet, and other fixtures one at a time.
☐	10	Clear both hot and cold sides. Run each side until water stops and only air comes out, then let air run another 20–30 seconds.
☐	11	Close each fixture before opening the next. This helps push water out of one line at a time.
☐	12	Protect the ice maker. Turn off the ice maker water line, disconnect it, drain it into a towel or container, and leave it open during storage.
☐	13	Bypass a tank-style water heater. Do not fill the water heater tank with antifreeze. Put it in bypass mode first.
☐	14	Drain the water heater. Remove the drain plug or anode rod, stand to the side, and let the tank empty.
☐	15	Check tankless water heater instructions. Use the winterizing ports or follow the owner's manual for your exact model.
☐	16	Check for an accumulator tank. If your RV has one near the water pump, drain it or bypass it before storage.
☐	17	Set up the water pump for antifreeze. Find the pump, turn on 12-volt power, and place the winterizing hose or pump intake hose into the antifreeze jug.
☐	18	Confirm the water heater is still bypassed. Check this before starting the pump so antifreeze does not fill the water heater tank.
☐	19	Run antifreeze through low point drains. Turn on the pump and open the low point drains until pink antifreeze comes out, then close them.

- ☐ 20 **Run antifreeze through every fixture.** Start farthest from the pump. Run cold until solid pink, then hot until solid pink.
- ☐ 21 **Repeat at all water points.** Do every faucet, shower, toilet, washer hookup, spray port, and outdoor kitchen connection.
- ☐ 22 **Protect the toilet.** Press the toilet pedal until pink antifreeze runs into the bowl.
- ☐ 23 **Use enough antifreeze.** Small trailers may need about 2 gallons. Larger RVs may need 4–7 gallons.
- ☐ 24 **Pour antifreeze into drains.** Add ½ to 1 cup of RV antifreeze into each sink, shower, tub, and washer drain.
- ☐ 25 **Protect black and gray tanks.** Pour several cups into the black tank through the toilet and into the gray tank through a sink or shower drain.
- ☐ 26 **Protect dump pumps or macerators.** If your RV has one, run a little antifreeze through it too.
- ☐ 27 **Do a final walkaround.** Check every faucet, drain, toilet, water heater, pump area, ice maker, outside shower, and tank connection before storing the RV.
- ☐ 28 **If unsure, recheck.** A few extra minutes now can help prevent frozen lines, cracked fittings, and expensive repairs later.