



Meet the
Trudgians



USED CARAVAN
pre purchase checklist

Caravan details

Make _____	VIN No. _____	Contact Name _____
Model _____	Price _____	Contact No. _____
Year _____		

1. The Seller and paperwork

<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask for all paperwork. Make sure there are instruction / user manuals for :
<input type="checkbox"/>	The caravan owner manual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heating & Hot water operation
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Fridge & Cooker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Installed Security items, including alarm, locks and tracker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motormover (if installed)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for caravan service history documents
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the CRiS certificate for current owner details

Outside the Caravan

2. The Caravan body

<input type="checkbox"/>	Look at the body work for dents, chips and missing paint
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the front panel for cracks especially above windows and grab handles
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check sealant where panels join, the awnings rail and lockers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open each locker, check the keys fit and the locks are not broken, while open check for cracks and bad odours. Make sure the seals are in good condition too
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for stickers or reflectors that look out of place. These can be hiding damage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the windows for deep scratches – light scratches can be corrected
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check windows for cracks or broken corners
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for condensation and the general fit of the window. Make sure it's not swollen or "blown"
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open the windows and check the outside edge of the seals are in good condition, not cracked or perished
<input type="checkbox"/>	On each Window check the CRiS registration number is the same as the weight plate on the side of the caravan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Using a step ladder investigate the roof, check all rooflights are not cracked and the rubbers are not perished
<input type="checkbox"/>	While on the roof check for sealant around fixtures such as TV antennas and any joins on the roof panel

3. Wheels and tyres

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the tyres are not car tyres. Look for a C at the tyre size. For example, 185/70C etc
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the age of the tyre. Search for DOT and four numbers. (e.g) DOT 2609 - Tyre was manufactured week 26 in 2009
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the condition of the tyre, no cracks / bulges or cuts. If they are damaged – they will need replacing before you tow it
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check each tyre is the same make and size. This will give an indication of a previous puncture
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for a locking wheel nut and that there is a key to release it.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for AL-KO wheel secure security device, that this fits and has keys to remove it
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't forget to check the spare tyre as well
<input type="checkbox"/>	If fitted, check that the spare wheel carrier is in good working order

4. Road Lights, Leisure battery and Gas

<input type="checkbox"/>	Connect a towing vehicle and check all the rear lights are working. This includes brakes, indicators, reversing (if fitted) fog and all side lights including markers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the lens of the lights – make sure they are not cracked or damaged
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check that no condensation is in any of the light clusters
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check plugs for corroded pins and that no bent pins exist
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check general condition of cable and that the plug is water tight
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moving to the leisure battery, check the battery for corrosion on the terminals
<input type="checkbox"/>	Also check the battery for any bulges, bad smell or signs of leakage
<input type="checkbox"/>	In the gas locker, look for a date stamp on the gas pipe – this should be under 5 years of age
<input type="checkbox"/>	With a gas bottle connected check for leaks by using soapy water around the regulator hose connections

5. Hitch and chassis & floor

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check under the caravan and look for corrosion – Caravans have a galvanised chassis, so check for any new drilled holes and the condition of the chassis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for any obvious bends or dents in the chassis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Using a torch, check for cracks or splinters in the wooden floor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check no cables or fixtures are loose under the caravan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make sure any vents in the floor are clear and free from obstruction
<input type="checkbox"/>	At the hitch check for any splits or cracks in the A frame moulding
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compress the hitch damper by pressing it in towards the caravan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the hitch head handle lifts correctly, and if fitted the stabilising hitch moves freely
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check that the breakaway cable has no splits, frayed ends and has no damage on the length of the cable. If it does, this will need replacing before you tow. This is a legal requirement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the rubber gaiter around the damper is not split
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make sure the jockey wheel moves freely without “grinding” feeling as it moves
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the tyre on the jockey wheel does not have a flat spot, and if pneumatic – is fully inflated
<input type="checkbox"/>	Visually check the hitch for obvious signs of damage, bends or dents
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wipe inside the hitch with a clean cloth and check for dirt or debris. A dirty hitch may result in contaminated friction pads (if fitted)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check all corner steadies operate smoothly winding up and down

Inside the Caravan

6. Internal fixtures

<input type="checkbox"/>	Smell the air in the caravan, take note of strong or musty smells and their location
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check around each window and look for stains caused by water
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open each window and check the window latches are in not broken
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use a damp meter to perform a damp check around any holes in the caravan, i.e windows, doors and lockers. (look for damp readings below 20% on a dry day)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use a torch and look under beds and seating areas for signs of mould
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use your finger to check for damp in corners and difficult areas to see
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pull up carpets, mats and any covering on the floor, walk the length of the caravan and check for any spongy flooring. The floor should be strong and not “bounce”
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check carpets and flooring for stains
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check upholstery for stains, marks and tears, on the front and back of each cushion / seat pad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sit in each seat and check that all seat pads are not flat or have lost their bounce
<input type="checkbox"/>	If the caravan has a bunk, make sure this has the mattress and bed boards to prevent a child from falling out
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the worksurfaces for holes, chips or broken edges
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check across the top of each worksurface and table for scratches
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look at each locker door and check for damage to the front, check the handles and latches are also not broken
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open and close every locker and cupboard. Check for smooth operation and correct closure

7. Kitchen & Washroom Appliances

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the fridge and freezer work on all modes, 230v (Mains). Check for fridge light working
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the fridge works on gas, listen for an ignition of the fridge
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the fridge works on 12V. if possible connect to a towing vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/>	In all cases, look for error codes that the fridge does not have a fault
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check all fridge shelves are present and not damaged
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look for mould around door deals, and freezer compartment seal - Moud can accumulate quickly if stored closed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the fridge door closes correctly and it seals tight
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look for any damage around plastic salad tray or door shelves
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the overall condition of the fridge and freezer. Check for bad smells
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the cooker hob igniter works
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check each gas ring that it lights and holds a steady blue flame
<input type="checkbox"/>	If the cooker has it, check the hot plate functions correctly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ignite the grill, make sure it also lights and stays lit with a steady blue flame
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ignite the oven and make sure the oven stays lit again with a flame
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for cracks in oven and grill door
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make sure the grill pan, with handle are present
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the shelves are fitted in the oven

7. Kitchen & Washroom Appliances (*Continued*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the toilet flush is operational
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the condition of the toilet cassette, look for damage on the seal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make sure the toilet bowl is not cracked or damaged

8. Heating, hot & cold water

<input type="checkbox"/>	No errors on control panel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for heat from vents if blown heating
<input type="checkbox"/>	If Alde wet heating, check for pump noise from expansion tank
<input type="checkbox"/>	Try heating on Gas, Electric check for faults or no heating output
<input type="checkbox"/>	Listen for strange noises whilst the caravan is warming up
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check that hot water is available from the kitchen, washroom and shower head
<input type="checkbox"/>	Run each tap on hot and cold, check for leaks and look for damp spots under the cabinets
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look at the kitchen sink, check for cracks or leaks around the plug hole
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the washroom basin for cracks around the bowl
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look at the shower tray and check for any cracks or sealant missing
<input type="checkbox"/>	If installed, use the fire and make sure it heats up correctly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Listen to the water pump (external and internal pumps) for strange rattle or vibrations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look at the furnace inside the caravan, check for leaks or signs of water damage

9. Power sources

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check that the 230v electrics are working. Check all outlets are working correctly by plugging in an appliance such as a small lamp
<input type="checkbox"/>	Switch all lights on and off that are 230v operated
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check that the battery voltage changes when EHU is plugged in, this will confirm the battery charger is operational
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check over the consumer unit, check for any tripped circuit breaker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check all lights, LED lighting, reading lamps and down lighters that are 12v operated
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check all USB sockets and 12v sockets are working correctly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check the battery level indicator is operational on the main panel
<input type="checkbox"/>	On the main panel check that there are no error messages or warnings
<input type="checkbox"/>	While unplugged, check the Electric hook up cable for damage on the plugs and cable. If damaged, it will need replacing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check all fuses are in good order, pull each one individually and examine
<input type="checkbox"/>	(If installed) check the solar panel is working correctly by examining the solar controller for lights / error codes

10. Installed Accessories

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ask the seller to demonstrate the motor mover. Move the caravan back and forth, left and right |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Disengage the motor mover and run it forward and backward listening for any rattles or odd sounds from the running gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Visually inspect the solar panel (if installed) check for damage to the panel surface and broken cables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If installed, ask for the A/C to be run at its coldest setting. Check the temperature from all vents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check the A/C on its heat cycle (if supported) check for heat out of all the vents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check the SAT dish can operate. Depending on type, model check the dish can auto locate, and can receive a signal. On the roof, check the dome is not cracked or damaged |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Use the TV antenna to receive a terrestrial signal. Check that the TV amplifier is operational and that all TV outlets work correctly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check the Radio can receive FM, DAB and AM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check the Radio is operational through its various modes. Eg, AM / FM/ DAB / CD and Bluetooth |

11. Security items

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check the hitch lock is operational, check for lock, cover and plastic insert |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Make sure all sets of keys are present |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check the Wheel locks / AXLE locks all fit and are in good order |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check all keys are present for Wheel / Axle locks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check alarm is operational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If fitted check the status of the tracker subscription |

Notes

--