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Tiffin Motorhomes

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2004

Allegro Bus

Owner's Manual

Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc.

105 2nd Street NW

Red Bay, AL 35582 U.S.A.

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TIFFIN MOTORHOMES, INC.

105 2nd Street NW ♦ Red Bay, Alabama 35582 U.S.A.

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© Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc.
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DISCLAIMER

Many of the features and appliances described in this manual may or may not be reflected in the actual motor home purchased, depending on the options and models selected by the motor-home owner. All items, materials, instructions, and guidance described in this manual are as accurate as possible at the time of printing. However, because of Tiffin Motorhomes' ongoing and dedicated commitment to excellence, improvement of Tiffin's motor homes is a continuing process. Consequently, Tiffin Motorhomes reserves the right to make substitutions and improvements in its makes and models of motor homes without prior notification. Substitutions of comparable or better materials, finishes, appliances, instrumentation, and instruction may be made at any time it is deemed prudent to provide the customer with the best possible motor home meeting the customer's requirements.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

TIFFIN MOTORHOMES: "WHEREVER YOU GO...WE GO"

Delivery

Throughout the entire manufacturing process your Tiffin motor home has been regularly inspected by our qualified personnel to assure you of the finest product of the highest quality, without exception. However, the final inspection at our factory is not to be the last one. The pre-delivery inspection and system check that your dealer performs are the final inspections done to your particular motor home prior to your actually receiving your new Allegro Bus motor home. Your dealer is also available to assist you in understanding the warranties and completing the necessary forms to activate the warranties for the various appliances and accessories installed in your motor home.

Dealer Responsibilities

1. A **pre-delivery inspection and systems check** is performed to assure a thorough inspection of the motor home and to assure the proper operation of all factory-installed components.
2. A **customer walk-through** is performed to familiarize the new customer with the motor home, its systems and components, and their proper and safe operation.
3. Delivery of the **Owner's Information Package** which contains warranty cards and registrations for the vehicle and all factory-installed components from other vendors and suppliers to Tiffin Motorhomes. The detailed operation instructions and maintenance instructions on these components are also included in this package.
4. Assisting the customer in **completing the registration forms** to avoid loss of warranty coverage. The dealer should review the limited-warranty provisions with the customer to stress the importance of completing the warranty cards and registration forms for the components in the motor home to enable the manufacturers to receive them within the prescribed time limits.
5. Providing the customer with **information regarding warranty and non-warranty work** on the vehicle and its separately warranted components.

Customer Responsibilities

The customer is responsible for regular and proper maintenance of the motor home. Properly maintaining your motor home will prevent conditions arising from neglect that are not covered by your Tiffin Motorhomes limited warranty. The maintenance guidelines in this manual and any other, applicable manual(s) should be followed. It is your responsibility and obligation to return the vehicle to an authorized dealer for repairs and service.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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Red Bay, AL 35582 U.S.A.

Telephone: (256) 356-8661; Facsimile: (256) 356-8219

E-Mail: info@tiffinmotorhomes.com

Tiffin Motorhomes will be pleased to send you an additional copy or any other information requested, as may be warranted.

Major Equipment Manufacturers

The following list is a compilation of the vendors and suppliers of the major subsystems and components of your Allegro Bus. This list is provided for your convenience and is not meant as a complete substitution of the literature and accompanying “how to contact us” information supplied by those vendors and suppliers in your Owner’s Information Package [see below for particulars]. Where appropriate, web-site information is provided for computer users.

- Acme Air Conditioning (800) 552-2263 www.threev.com
- Atwood Mobile Products (800) 646-8557 www.atwoodmobile.com
 - CO Alarm (800) 880-6788 www.atwoodmobile.com
 - LP Gas Detector (815) 877-5700 www.atwoodmobile.com
 - LP Gas Water Heater (815) 877-5700 www.atwoodmobile.com
- Denso Corporation (248) 350-7500 www.globaldenso.com
- Flexsteel Industries (319) 556-7730 www.flexsteel.com
- Heart Interface (800) 446-6180 www.heartinterface.com
- HWH Corporation (800) 321-3494 www.hwhcorp.com
- Kwikkee (541) 942-3888 www.kwikkee.com
- Norcold, Inc. (800) 543-1219 www.norcold.com
- Onan Corporation (612) 574-5944 www.onanindiana.com
- Panasonic Corporation (800) 211-7262 www.panasonic.com

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- Power Gear (800) 334-4712 www.powergear.com
- RV Products (Coleman A/C) (316) 832-3400 www.airxcel.com
- Sharp Corporation (800) 237-4277 www.sharp-usa.com
- Suburban Manufacturing Co. (423) 775-2131 www.suburbanmanufacturing.com
- The Dometic Corporation (219) 294-2017 www.dometic.com

For those wishing more information (e.g., locations of authorized subsidiaries), the following web site, www.rvamerica.com/data/s_alist.htm, should be helpful. This site provides complete, alphabetic listings of all suppliers and vendors for all contemporary recreational vehicles and motor homes.

Warranty Service

If any warranty service may be required, that service needs to be completed during the warranty period (general warranty: 12 months or 12,000 miles). Tiffin Motorhomes warrants its unitized construction for 10 years and its laminations for 5 years. Any service work performed after the expiration of the Tiffin Motorhomes warranties WILL NOT be covered by those warranties.

Exceptions may be made, on an individual basis, to this deadline on account of the unavailability of parts and/or service appointment time where work is to be performed. However, don't rely on the possibility of an exception; please schedule any desired in-warranty work before your warranty expires.

Owner's Information Package

The Owner's Information Package includes valuable documents about your Allegro Bus and its components and systems. The Tiffin Motorhomes Allegro Bus Owner's Guide does not cover every possible detail of equipment—standard and/or optional—installed on or in your vehicle. By consulting the booklets and instruction manuals included in the Owner's Information Package, you will learn how to operate, maintain, and troubleshoot these items safely and effectively.



Figure 1-2. Owner's Information Package

As with all valuable documentation, please keep them in a safe, secure place for your later use and consultation. When you complete and mail to the respective manufacturer(s) any warranty/guaranty registration card(s), make a photocopy of both sides of each card prior to mailing and keep the photocopy in your

permanent records for your Allegro Bus Motor Home.

Customer Relations

If you wish to schedule maintenance or service or wish to order parts, you should notify your local authorized Tiffin Motorhomes Dealership to set up an appointment. If you are unsure of the location of your nearest, authorized Tiffin Motorhomes Dealership; please access the Tiffin Motorhomes website at www.tiffinmotorhomes.com and then click on the “find a dealer” button, then click on the appropriate section of the United States nearest your location, then select the closest dealer by clicking on that dealer’s number—the dealer’s name, address, and telephone number will then be displayed for your use.

Specification Labels

There are two main numbers used to identify your Allegro Bus. The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is the legal identification of the completed vehicle. The VIN is the number used by the state for vehicle identification and registration. Additionally, there is a Tiffin Motorhomes identification number. The Tiffin number is needed when you plan to make an appointment for service or ordering parts through your Tiffin Motorhomes Dealership or Service Center. This number can be found on the side of the dashboard. A typical sample of this identification label is shown on the right.



Figure 1-3. Specification Label

Another label affixed to your Allegro Bus is the Recreational Vehicle Industrial Association (RVIA) Weight Label which is a required label for your vehicle. Tiffin Motorhomes, a manufacturer-member of RVIA, has the obligation to disclose the following information, at minimum, to the purchaser of the motor home:

- An indication of the contents of the RVIA weight label affixed to the motor home.
- A concise explanation of the following items:
 - Vehicle Weight (VW) distribution.
 - Proper weighing techniques to be used to weigh the vehicle.
 - Specific definitions for the following terminology:
 - **Gross Vehicle-Weight Rating (GVWR)** – This is the maximum permissible weight of the motor home when it is fully loaded.

Recreational Vehicle Industrial Association (RVIA) Weight Label			
Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc. 105 2 nd Street NW Red Bay, AL 35892 U.S.A. Telephone: (256) 356-6661 Facsimile: (256) 356-8219 E-Mail: info@tiffinmotorhomes.com			
			
Motor Home Weight Information			
Model Name:	400H-Freightliner	Serial Number:	2405
Year:	2002		
Weight Terminology and Definitions			
GVWR	Gross Vehicle Weight Rating is the maximum permissible weight of this fully-loaded motorhome.		
UVW	Unloaded Vehicle Weight is the weight of this motorhome, as manufactured at the factory, with full fuel, engine oil, and coolant.		
SCWR	Sleeping Capacity Weight Rating is the manufacturer's designated number of sleeping positions multiplied by 154 pounds (70 kilograms).		
CCC	Cargo Carrying Capacity is equal to GVWR minus each of the following: UVW, full fresh (potable) water weight (including water heater), full LP Gas weight, and SCWR.		
GCWR	Gross Combination Weight Rating means the maximum allowable loaded weight of this motorhome and any towed trailer or towed vehicle.		
Cargo Carrying Capacity (CCC) Computation - Example			
Item	Description	Weight (Lbs.)	Weight (Kg.)
GVWR	Gross Vehicle Weight Rating	14,050	6,345
Minus UVW	Unloaded Vehicle Weight	-9,250	-4,204
Minus Fresh Water weight	Fresh water weight of 105-gallons @ 8.3 lbs/gallon (3.8 Kg./gal on)	890	-378
Minus LP Gas	80 gallons @ 4.2 lbs/gallon	-336	-149
Minus SCWR	6 persons @ 154 lbs/person	-924	-420
CCC*		2,660	1,237
*Note: Dissipated equipment and fixed weight (single weight) will reduce CCC.			
WARNING: Consult Owners Manual(s) for specific weighing instructions and towing guidelines including auxiliary brake requirements for any towed trailer or towed vehicle.			
<small>Revised Date: 24 June 2002</small>			

Figure 1-4. RVIA Weight Label

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Unloaded Vehicle Weight (UVW)** – This is the weight of the motor home, as built at the factory, with full fuel, engine oil, and coolants. The UVW does not include cargo, fresh water, LP gas, or any dealer-installed accessories.
 - **Cargo-Carrying Capacity (CCC)** – This is the maximum weight of all occupants including the driver, personal belongings, food, fresh water, waste water, LP gas, tools, tongue weight of towed vehicle [if any], dealer-installed accessories, and the like. The CCC is equal to or less than the GVWR minus the UVW.
 - **Gross Combination-Weight Rating (GCWR)** – This is the value specified by the chassis manufacturer as the maximum allowable loaded weight of the motor home with a towed trailer and/or vehicle [if any].
 - **Sleeping-Capacity Weight Rating (SCWR)** – This is the maximum weight capacity of the combined number of persons (i.e., number of people multiplied by 154 pounds per person) permitted to sleep within the vehicle.
 - **Gross Axle-Weight Rating (GAWR)** – This is the maximum allowable weight for a single-axle system, as measured at the tire-ground interfaces. The GAWR considers the weakest link in the tire, wheel, brakes, hubs, axle, springs, and attaching parts. To illustrate, if the axle is rated at 15,000 pounds and the tires are rated at 3,200 pounds each as a dual installation; then the maximum GAWR would be 12,800 pounds for a four-tire vehicle
- **Towing Guidelines** – Specific weighing instructions and guidelines are furnished in the Owner’s Manual (see below and also in Chapter 2).

Weighing Procedures for the Allegro Bus

To weigh the motor home properly, the motor home should be level when the weighing process is performed. Your Allegro Bus motor home has been designed and built in compliance with the recommended limits of the major-component/system suppliers to provide a realistic CCC. It is up to the final user to provide even distribution of the loads brought into the motor home to prevent uneven loading. Once the vehicle is loaded, it can be taken to any drive-on scales or individual-wheel scales to determine that the final weight is within specified limits for the motor home. The procedure which can be used is as follows:

First, drive the motor home onto the scales so that all wheels are on the scales; this provides the gross vehicle weight (GVW) of the vehicle and can be recorded as such. The GVW should not exceed the GVWR specified for the vehicle. Second, drive the motor home so that the front wheels are off the scales and only the rear wheels remain on the scales; this provides the total weight of the vehicle, save for the front axle. This weight should not exceed the total rating of the axles remaining on the scales. The front axle weight is determined by subtracting the weight from the GVW that was obtained in the

first step which was performed earlier. The result should not exceed the listed front-axle weight rating. Chapter 14 contains more specific axle-weight determinations.

Weight Distribution Throughout the Motor Home

To assure the maximum stability of the motor home under static (i.e., parked) and dynamic (i.e., moving) conditions, the distribution of the items to be carried and stored within the motor home and in the storage bays underneath the motor home should be performed in such a manner to strive for reasonably even side-to-side and front-to-rear dispersion of the weight of the stored items. This process will assure that the motor home is not “lop-sided” in weight distribution (i.e., all the stored weight on one side and/or mainly towards the front or the rear)—keeping a center of mass of the motor home essentially centered on a front-to-rear and side-to-side basis will also provide better control of the motor home when it is in motion.

Driving & Safety Instructions

Safety Considerations

Prior to using your motor home, especially for the first time or after a long period of non-use, please read thoroughly all the instructions in the Owner's Manual and the chassis-manufacturer's manual before attempting to operate your motor home. There are several safety considerations which you should realize and follow while your Allegro Bus is in motion. These safety considerations, as well as others meant to preclude any damage to the motor home, are listed in this chapter. Besides the driver, it would be helpful for the passengers to be familiar with these safety considerations and precautions, too.

Warning

Before your motor home is to be towed, be sure that you have read the entire Owner's Manual and that you fully understand the equipment on your motor home and how to use that equipment safely.

General Warning

Warning

Any portable, fuel-burning equipment (e.g., charcoal, propane, butane, wood) must not be used inside the motor home. Any use of such equipment inside the motor home may readily cause fires and/or asphyxiation by carbon-monoxide poisoning. Further, such unauthorized use would probably invalidate your motor-home insurance policy.

In general, there are several "common-sense" safety precautions that should be taken every time the motor home is to be used on the road. These precautions include:

- Only seats with seat belts should be used while the motor home is in motion; those seat belts should be worn by all people (driver, passengers) in the motor home at that time.
- While the motor home is moving, lock all seats in the forward-facing position to provide maximum safety for the users.
- While the motor home is moving, no one inside should ever stand or kneel on seats (e.g., young children).

DRIVING & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- In the majority of states, it is the law that seat belts must be used (fastened snugly about the chest and hip areas), anytime the motor home is in motion, to provide desired protection in the event of a crash.
- Any fire extinguisher(s) should be inspected on a monthly basis to assure that each extinguisher is properly charged and ready for operation.
- Any smoke and/or carbon-monoxide (CO) alarm(s) should be regularly inspected and tested. If being used for the first time, the smoke and/or CO alarm should be properly activated and fresh batteries installed before the motor home is placed into service. Prior to any trip, the smoke and/or CO alarm(s) should be manually tested to assure their correct operation. Immediately replace any defective components (e.g., weak batteries). Never sleep in a motor home not having functional smoke and/or CO alarm(s).
- While the motor home is moving, the sleeping facilities are not to be used.
- In the event of an emergency, be sure to be familiar with all escape exits (doors, escape window). Do not use the emergency window as a routine exit; this is strictly to be used for emergency purposes only.

Prior to Departure

For your continued safety and convenience, the following is a representative “check list” designed to assure your safety while driving:

- Clean all windows, mirrors, and light lenses (front, back, side) to assure that you can “see” and “be seen.” Reposition any mirrors or other fixtures to provide an unobstructed view (front, sides, and back) from the driver’s seat.
- Remove or secure all loose fixtures (e.g., awnings, flags, antennas, portable lights) to keep them from falling from the motor home when the motor home is in motion.
- Make a “walk-around” visual inspection of the motor home to note any irregularities (e.g., loose trim) or problems (e.g., low tires); correct noted problems accordingly.
- Check all exterior storage-compartment and generator-compartment doors to make sure that they are properly latched. If need be, check inside all exterior compartments to make sure that all cargo and equipment are properly secured so that they won’t work loose and become hazards during sudden starts and stops.
- Check tires for proper inflation (i.e., cold inflation pressure: 100 psig); if the motor home has not been used, make sure that the “cold inflation” pressure is maintained. If the motor

DRIVING & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

home has very recently been used, make sure that the “hot inflation” pressure (see the tire-manufacturer’s literature to determine appropriate “hot inflation” pressure) is maintained. All tire pressures should be within 1-2 pounds (psig) of each other.

- Examine wheel lug nuts to assure their proper tightness. If any lug nuts were found to be loose, first check the fit of the wheel to the hub to make sure that the wheel is not mis-mounted which would produce a “wobbly” wheel when the motor home is in motion, then tighten the lug nuts.
- Check all fluid levels (e.g., engine oil, transmission fluid, coolant, power-steering fluid, brake fluid, battery fluid [if applicable], windshield-washer solvent) to assure correct levels are maintained. Fill any low reservoirs, as needed.
- DO NOT SUBSTITUTE any other fluids for specified oils, transmission fluid, brake fluid, or other hydraulic fluids—in most instances, substitutions are not acceptable and may void warranties.
- Prior to starting the motor-home engine, make sure that all lines (e.g., water, sewer) and electrical-power cords are disconnected and properly stowed.
- Assure that the leveling jacks are in the “travel” position.
- After entering the motor home, make sure that the electrically-actuated, retractable step has properly operated to retract the step fully before starting the engine of the motor home.

Driving

Various adjustments need to be made to assure the driver’s comfort and the safety of the motor home before starting and moving the motor home; these include:

- The driver should adjust the driver’s seat, the tilt steering, the exterior rear-view mirrors, and the instrumentation panel lighting (if night-time) for the driver’s comfort and safety. This is especially important for first-time use so that the driver may become accustomed to the “feel” of the motor home and know where the various adjustments are located “before the fact”; not after some need arises while the motor home is in service.
- The driver should be familiar with all gauges, instruments, switches, and indicators on the instrument panel



Figure 2-1. Driver’s Instrumentation Panel

DRIVING & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

prior to driving. Should the driver encounter any “unknowns” on the panel, they should be investigated (via the Owner’s Manual) prior to departure so that the driver fully understands these items and their functions.

- One should never adopt a “learn as you go” philosophy, as there are too many controls and switches to be understood before the motor home is actually used. Please take the time to become thoroughly familiar with the entire instrument panel prior to using the motor home on the road.
- Do not operate the cruise-control function during any extreme weather situations (e.g., snow, ice, sleet, heavy rain) or when road conditions are hazardous (icy, snowy, winding roads, city traffic) or when a constant speed of the motor home is not possible or if traffic conditions don’t warrant such.
- Avoid driving the motor home through any standing water. If deep enough, such water can wet the brake pads and cause fading of the brakes (i.e., loss of braking power) and lead to excessive sliding or pulling to one side or another. If one has driven through standing water, at the first opportunity safely to do so, check the braking action. If braking has degraded, lightly apply the brakes to allow the brake pads to dry—don’t use the motor home when the braking function is significantly reduced.
- Know the limits of operation of the motor home. Don’t try to achieve excessive speeds, climb overly steep hills, traverse overly long grades, attempt to use the motor home as an “off-the-road” (OTR) motor home, rapidly switch lanes, or rapidly accelerate or decelerate the motor home. When in doubt about the handling characteristics of the motor home, consult your chassis manual for information.

Fuels for the Motor home

Your motor home is designed to have several types of petroleum-derived fuels used in the routine operation of the motor home—these require prudent and safe handling to assure safety of the motor home and its occupants; namely:

Warning

Liquid Propane (LP) gas containers, gasoline, or other flammable liquids are not to be placed or stored inside the motor home because a fire or explosion may occur. LP gas containers are equipped with safety valves that may relieve excess pressure by discharging gas into the atmosphere—any containment of that vented LP gas constitutes an explosive hazard.



Figure 2-2. Liquid Propane Tank

DRIVING & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Anytime the motor fuel (i.e., diesel fuel) or the LP tank is to be filled, the motor home engine is to be turned off, all pilot lights must be extinguished, and appliances turned off. Further, during any filling operation or connecting/disconnecting of any LP tanks, a NO SMOKING policy should always be observed. In a similar manner, any other comparable devices of the motor home users (e.g., butane camp-lights, propane lights and grills) should be treated in a similar manner to assure the safety of all concerned.
- NEVER use an open flame to test for LP gas leaks or to examine the fluid levels in the fuel tanks.
- After filling any LP system, immediately replace and secure all protective covers and caps.
- After closing the LP valve, close and securely latch the LP door to prevent unintentional access or damage.
- NEVER connect natural gas to the LP gas system—LP gas and natural gas are not interchangeable.
- NEVER use any other “burning” equipment (e.g., charcoal grills, wood stoves, butane lights, propane lights inside the motor home—doing so may cause fires and/or asphyxiation).



Figure 2-3.
Fuel Tank
Fill Door

Liquid Propane (LP) Gas System

A warning label is conspicuously located near the LP gas container; that label reads:

Warning

DO NOT FILL the LP Container(s) to more than 80% of capacity.

Any overfilling of the LP gas container(s) can result in uncontrolled gas flow—a prime condition for a fire or explosion. The LP container should only be filled to 80% of its capacity; the remainder of the cylinder space is an air space to contain expansion of that liquid when subjected to varying ambient-temperature conditions. Filling in excess of 80% of the liquid volume of the container reduces that air space and, thus, creates a condition for possible over-pressurization of the container.

All LP appliances in your motor home have been approved for use in motor homes by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory (i.e., UL and CSA certified). When properly used, LP gas is a clean-



Figure 2-4. Liquid Propane Tank

DRIVING & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

burning fuel which can be dependably used. In actuality, the LP container contains liquid propane under high pressure. The liquid, when it passes through the tank valve to a lower pressure, vaporizes into a gas, and then passes through a regulator to maintain a constant pressure. This gas, then, is the actual fuel distributed through the LP-gas manifold system to the LP-based appliances used in your motor home.

LP-appliance lighting problems are typically caused by an improperly-adjusted gas regulator. NEVER attempt to adjust or reset the gas regulator yourself, as an authorized service technician is needed to make these adjustments. As a good preventive-maintenance activity, the regulator should be checked annually by a service technician and also before every extended trip.

Even though the LP-gas system is leak-checked and verified at the factory at the time of manufacture, normal usage (travel vibrations, etc.) could loosen the fittings. Consequently, it is wise to check the gas fittings periodically for leak tightness. One can daub some leak-detector solution (e.g., a “liquid-soap”-like solution) on all the fittings, connections, and junctures when the system is under pressure. Should there be any leaks, small bubbles will appear at any leak sites.

Generally, loose fittings can be tightened to stop the leaks. If this process doesn't work, then one must shut off the main gas valve at the LP cylinder(s) and immediately consult an authorized service technician to determine what repairs are necessary. Leaks may also be detected by noting a sulfurous odor (i.e., rotten eggs). DO NOT search for a leak by using a match or open flame.

Warning

When the motor home is not in use, be sure to close the main LP gas valve at the tank. When the LP gas tank is to be refilled, close the main valve to preclude the chance of pilot lights possibly igniting fumes from the LP fuel. As some LP-gas appliances (e.g., refrigerator, furnace, water heater) have Direct Spark Ignition (DSI) systems, it is very important that these appliances be turned off when the LP gas is off. The DSI boards will continue to work (i.e., emit an ignition spark) even when there is no LP gas available.

LP Gas Regulator

The LP gas regulator is the most critical element of the LP-gas distribution system. The regulator converts the high-pressure LP gas from the tank into a reduced-pressure LP-gas supply suitable for use in the various appliances in the motor home. One should regularly inspect visually the regulator system.

If any damage or corrosion is noted, contact an authorized service technician to inspect and repair or replace the regulator. Do not attempt to adjust the regulator yourself; the regulator has been pre-set at the factory. Only a qualified LP service technician using specialized equipment should adjust the regulator.

LP Distribution System

The primary LP distribution system in the motor home is a black, steel pipe running the length of the motor home. The secondary distribution lines running from this main distribution system are usually copper tubing with flare fittings. If any of the gas lines break, do not attempt to splice them—always run new lines to maintain the safety of the motor home. It is strongly recommended that only qualified service technicians perform this work. Remember, the main valve at the LP gas tank must be closed whenever any gas appliance is to be installed, removed, or serviced—this process prevents LP gas leakage which could result in a possible harmful explosion. If the odor of LP gas is ever detected, immediately discontinue use of any gas appliances and seek the services of a qualified service technician.

Recommended Precautionary Practices

The following practices are recommended to assure continued safety and reliability of the LP gas system; these are, of course, representative; not necessarily exhaustive. In all cases, use common good sense in the use of the LP system.

- Visually inspect the LP fill valve before any refueling operation to look for foreign materials or debris; remove, as necessary, to assure a leak-tight connection.
- Prior to any re-fueling operation of the LP gas system, shut off all the pilot lights.
- NEVER, under any circumstances, check for LP gas leaks with any type of open flame; doing so would probably cause an explosion and subsequent fire.
- Periodically inspect visually the entire LP gas distribution system; do so at least annually and before any major trips. Should problems be noted, seek the services of a qualified service technician to make necessary repairs and perform any maintenance.

Warning

The LP gas distribution system in your motor home is designed for liquefied petroleum (LP) gas ONLY. DO NOT attempt to connect and use any natural-gas or butane-gas systems with this LP gas system.

Fire Safety

As with any enclosed system containing the three required conditions for fire (i.e., combustible materials, oxygen, ignition sources), there will exist the possibility of fire. Tiffin Motorhomes has taken every precaution and design practice to minimize or negate this possibility, but the final determination rests with the owner and user of the motor home. Accordingly, it is in the best interests of the owners,

users, and their guests to be aware of basic fire-safety practices and procedures and those particular features that Tiffin Motorhomes has provided for fire safety.

Fire Extinguisher

The Allegro Bus is equipped with a fire extinguisher (located on the floor between the passenger’s chair and the passenger’s console) rated for both Class B (i.e., grease, gasoline, diesel fuel, flammable liquids) and Class C (i.e., electrical) services—these are typically the most likely types of fires to be expected in motor homes. Read and understand the accompanying owner’s manual on that extinguisher (found in your Owner’s Information Package) and remember the location of the extinguisher. In an emergency, you won’t have the time or presence of mind to do so then.



Figure 2-5.
Fire
Extinguisher

These types of fire extinguishers are pressurized, mechanical devices and require that appropriate care be used in their safe storage and use. The owner’s manual will provide necessary guidance for the proper storage, handling, and use of the extinguishers. Prudent preventive maintenance suggests monthly inspection of any fire extinguisher to assure that it is sufficiently pressurized (i.e., the needle on the gauge is in the “normal” zone) and that the mechanical components are not blocked in any way. Do not test a fire extinguisher by partially discharging the unit—this will cause a loss of pressure and may lodge some fire-retardant materials in the valve mechanism and cause the extinguisher to continue to vent slowly down to zero pressure. Rather, if an extinguisher is ever partially used; continue its use until the unit is completely discharged then have the fire extinguisher fully recharged at an appropriate service center (one can call any fire department for information on having an extinguisher recharged in that particular locality). **DO NOT** wait a long time to recharge an empty fire extinguisher; you’ll never know when it may be needed.

Should a fire occur inside or around the motor home, evacuate the motor home quickly and calmly—do not panic. In the event of heavy smoke or extensive flames, keep low (crawl if you must) and make your way to the nearest exit (door, emergency window) and leave. If the fire involves a fuel source (e.g., diesel fuel, LP gas); consider the probability of an explosion and move sufficiently far away to minimize personal harm. If such is available, immediately place a call to the local fire department (or ask someone nearby to do so) to report the fire. Consider the cause and the consequences of the fire and the risks associated with possibly fighting the fire yourself before trying to extinguish it—**DO NOT** expose yourself or others to unnecessary danger.

Smoke Detector



Figure 2-6. Smoke Detector (Left)

The Allegro Bus motor home is equipped with a battery-operated smoke detector located on the ceiling in the living area of the motor home (left-hand side of picture). Read and become familiar with the operation and periodic testing of this detector. The smoke detector

should be tested on a weekly basis, before each trip, and after any period of storage of the motor home. If a low-battery condition is noted or the alarm “chirps” to indicate a low-battery condition, immediately replace the battery. It would be prudent to keep replacement batteries in the motor home for any in-transit replacements so that the smoke-alarm capability is never compromised. DO NOT disable the smoke detector for any transient, false alarm (e.g., cooking smoke, dusty furnace, tobacco smoke); rather, ventilate the motor home with fresh air and the alarm will reset.

Emergency Exit Window

In the rear of the motor home, there is an emergency exit window in the bedroom—this window is designed for an emergency exit when it is not practical to exit by the door [also an emergency exit] in the front of the motor home. This window is readily noticeable by its red handle and the red “EXIT” label on that window. To use this window as an emergency exit, lift the handle and push outward on the window. As required, the window can be closed by pulling the window inwards and then lowering the handle to latch the window back in place. When the motor home is to be parked, it would be wise to note where this window will be so that this exit won’t be blocked (e.g., against a tree, pole, or wall).



Figure 2-7. Emergency Exit Window

Parking Procedures

To park the motor home in any unfamiliar terrain, examine the prospective site for surface irregularities, slopes or inclines, and other discontinuities (i.e., stumps, rocks, external connections for power/water/sewage) and also examine the area immediately above the proposed parking site for obstructions (e.g., tree branches and limbs, signs, overhead wiring). If the motor home is to be backed into the proposed parking site, strive to have that site be on the driver’s left-hand side, as this will allow the driver to watch the rear of the motor home. Back up slowly and use the side mirrors and the back-up camera as a guide or, better yet, have another person outside provide supplemental guidance to help park the motor home.

When the motor home is finally situated, shift the transmission into neutral, set the air brakes, and then turn “off” the engine. Activate the leveling-jack system (see Chapter 9 for more detail) to level and stabilize the motor home.

If the motor home is to be powered externally, connect the 120 VAC power to the motor home. Turn “on” the LP gas valve at the LP tank. Connect the fresh-water supply and sanitize the water systems (see Chapter 11), as needed. Connect the waste drain hose to the external sewer hook-up. Start the refrigerator, water heater, and furnace; as warranted. Light the oven pilot light, as needed. Certain appliances, such as the refrigerator, will not work properly, if the motor home is not level; so be sure to complete the motor home-leveling process before activating any of the appliances.

Towing Hitch

The Allegro Bus is fully capable of towing typical motor vehicles; the motor home is equipped with a Class 3, 10,000-pound towing hitch and associated wiring connector. The motor home is capable of towing light loads and instructions for such are found in the chassis-manufacturer's literature in the Owner's Information Package provided with the Allegro Bus. The total weight of the motor home and any vehicle towed by that motor home must not exceed the Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR). When the motor home is being weighed, remember to account for passengers and their locations in the motor home. **Any vehicles to be towed by the motor home should have adequate active braking.**



Figure 2-8. Class 3 Towing Hitch

The wiring connector provided is a standard seven-pin connector, a more detailed description of which is provided in Chapter 7. If needed, the connector for the mailer brake actuator is located beneath the access panel located on the dashboard pod.

Heating & Air Conditioning

Furnace

Warning

Never attempt to modify the furnace. To do so may cause fire, explosion, carbon-monoxide poisoning, or asphyxiation. If the furnace is malfunctioning, immediately shut the unit "off" and call a trained service technician to make necessary repairs as soon as possible.

The Allegro Bus motor home is equipped with a forced-air furnace fueled by LP gas. The furnace is controlled by the wall-mounted thermostat located inside the motor home—this thermostat controls both the heating and air conditioning for the motor home.

In the heating mode, the furnace heats air which, in turn, is circulated through ductwork in the floor of the motor home. If any obstruction(s) block the floor vent(s) or air-return register, then the furnace will not function properly. Therefore, any items stored under the cabinets should be carefully stowed to prevent damaging or crushing the furnace ducting or blocking the warm-air return.



Figure 3-1. Thermostat

When a furnace is being used for the first time, there may be an initial “burn-off” of manufacturing compounds or residues left on the heat exchanger or in the ductwork which could produce odors, fumes, and possibly some smoke. This occurrence is normal and should not cause concern, unless it persists for an excessive amount of time.

To minimize the after-effects of this “burn-off” process, the initial use of the furnace should be done with all the doors and windows open to permit normal air circulation to dissipate these odors and fumes.

For routine operation of the furnace, set the thermostat to the desired temperature setting and then turn “on” the thermostat; in about a minute, the furnace should begin to operate and warm or hot air should be coming through the ductwork.

To shut down the furnace, turn the thermostat to the “off” position. Even though the thermostat may be turned “off,” the furnace system will continue to run for about a minute or so to permit a gradual cool-down of the heating system which is normal.

On a regular basis, thoroughly clean the complete furnace and air-tube passageways to remove dust, lint, and any other possible obstructions. Leak-test the entire LP gas system at least annually. Also check and clean the air-blower system annually.

Any access hatches to the furnace are for authorized service personnel only, as there are no user-serviceable parts on the furnace. Accordingly, do not attempt to tamper with the interior of the furnace.

Warning

Be cautious when washing the exterior of the motor home; water should never be sprayed directly into the furnace vent. Should any water be forced beyond the rain baffles into the furnace vent, the furnace may rust which, in turn, may cause improper combustion and produce unwanted by-products of combustion.

Before the beginning of each travel season, the furnace should be thoroughly cleaned and inspected. Any obstructions, debris, or lint which may obstruct free air flow or impede the operation of the air-circulation system should be removed. For example, accumulated dust or lint could possibly obstruct the orifices for the pilot light or may accumulate on the blower blades and unbalance the operation of the blower. Additionally, any debris in the ductwork, when heated by the furnace, could emit unpleasant odors or possibly become a fire hazard.

Consequently, the furnace system (including ductwork) should be periodically cleaned; annually is recommended unless the motor home is subjected to dust levels significantly greater than average; in which case more frequent cleaning is recommended. The Owner's Information Package provides recommended cleaning tips and procedures; when needed, a more thorough cleaning should be performed by a qualified service technician.

Air Conditioning System

The factory-installed air-conditioning system is designed for 120 VAC power supplied either from the external power cord or from the generator. Any unnecessary heat loading (e.g., exposure to direct sunlight for long periods of time; transmittance of sunlight through the windows) will work the air conditioning system harder and may compromise the desired results. Accordingly, if the air conditioning system is to be used, park the motor home in a shady location whenever possible and close drapes on those windows exposed to direct sunlight. Additionally, any heat-producing sources (e.g., oven, unnecessary lights) within the motor home will work against the air conditioning system; so strive to minimize their use.

The air conditioning system is the major consumption device of electrical power in the motor home. When this system is being used in an RV park, cumulative use of these air-conditioning systems by the resident vehicles can create a bigger demand for electrical power than is actually available. Accordingly, at times a "brown-out" condition may arise—this is when the AC voltage normally available drops to a lesser value (e.g., 10-20% below normal or more).

“Brown-out” conditions cause appliances to draw greater currents to make up for the reduced voltage; thereby causing circuit breakers to trip or fuses to blow. Under such conditions, your own motor home is not at fault; simply reset your breakers and/or replace your fuses. Should such conditions continue, one may wish to turn reduce the electrical load (in this case, turn “off” the air conditioning system for awhile) or start the electrical generator.

To cool the motor home, the thermostat inside the Allegro Bus is used—this is the same thermostat which controls the furnace functions (described earlier). The air-conditioned, cooled air is forced through the ducts in the top of the motor home to the various vents for distribution throughout the motor home. By adjusting the relative openings of these vents and the doors connecting various sections of the motor home, different zones of air conditioning can be generated (e.g., warmer bedroom, cooler living room) to suit the user’s requirements.

Thermostatic Controls

The following is a brief overview of how best to use the thermostat. For more detailed instructions, please consult the thermostat literature in the Owner’s Information Package.

1. Turn “on” the power switch on the thermostat(s).
2. Press the Mode button to select the desired function (e.g., COOL, FURNACE, FAN ONLY, etc.). Note: In the “COOL” mode there will be a delay of several minutes before the refrigerant in the air-conditioning system begins to cool the motor home, as the compressor is on a time-delay circuit and it must also cool the ductwork to the vents first.
3. Press the Fan button to select fan speed desired or automatic operation.
4. Press the Up and/or the Down buttons to set the desired temperature for the motor home.
5. If your vehicle should contain more than one control zone, press the zone button to select the desired zone and then repeat the procedures from Step 2 onwards for each control zone.



Figure 3-2. Thermostat

NOTE: If the Comfort Control is turned “off” or the thermostat loses power (i.e., power failure), the air-conditioning system will resume operation at the last settings programmed into it when electrical power is restored.

Liquid Propane (LP) Tank

The Allegro Bus is equipped with an ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers)-approved LP tank which is equipped with an automatic pressure regulator. This tank contains liquid petroleum fuel under high pressure. As this fuel passes through the main valve and through the regulator, it is converted into a gas and its pressure is reduced to a safe level for use within the motor home. A LP gas-



Figure 3-3. Liquid Propane Tank

distribution system distributes the gas to those appliances using such in the motor home. The “heart” of this LP gas distribution system is the regulator and that regulator should only be adjusted by a qualified service technician. Most of the problems encountered in lighting the pilots of these appliances are caused by regulator mis-adjustments.

The major component of the LP gas supply is a manifold pipe which runs lengthwise underneath the motor home floor. From this manifold, the various gas appliances are connected by copper tubing with flared fittings so that connections and disconnections can readily be made, as needed.

Should any of the secondary tubing develop a leak, either on the tubing proper or at the fittings, do not attempt to splice any of these lines. Instead, have a qualified service technician run a new length of tubing to the appliance of concern and then have that line leak-tested before placing it in normal operation.

To remove, repair, or replace any gas-operated appliance; always close the main gas valve at the LP tank—this measure will provide an additional element of safety to prevent gas leakage and possible, subsequent explosion hazards. However, if a gas leak is noted or suspected, turn “off” the main valve and keep the LP gas system “off” until that system is inspected by a qualified service technician as soon as possible.

Do not delay in addressing any possible gas leaks with appropriate service because of the inherent hazards to safety.

Warning

When the motor home is not being used, the main LP gas valve must be turned “off.” Also, turn “off” the main valve when the LP gas tank is to be refueled to avoid the possibility of ignition fuel fumes by the pilot lights. All gas valves on the gas-operated appliances with Direct Spark Ignition (DSI) should also be in the “off” position during refueling and/or maintenance operations. DO NOT store LP, diesel, propane, butane, or other flammable liquids inside the vehicle as these represent a very real fire hazard and possible threat to life.

LP Tank Filling Practices

Any LP gas tank associated with the motor home should never be filled to more than 80% of total capacity; filling should always be done only when the motor home is leveled. If the motor home is not level, the tank may be overfilled (i.e., more than 80% of capacity) and, thus, subject the motor home to possible fire or explosion from resultant uncontrolled gas flows.

LP Gas Regulator

As noted earlier, the LP gas regulator is the “heart” of the LP gas distribution system. This regulator reduces and controls the pressure of the gas on the outlet end to provide a constant supply of gas at a constant pressure to the gas-operated appliances.

The regulator has a vent to relieve excess pressure on the inlet side of the regulator, should excess pressure develop in the gas tank and connecting gas line to that regulator inlet. The vent would normally release the excess LP gas to the atmosphere until the over-pressurization condition is eliminated.

This vent should be regularly checked to assure that it is not clogged or obstructed. If that vent is blocked from normal operation, component or system failures may result. If periodic visual inspection indicates any sign of corrosion or degradation, contact a qualified service technician to repair the regulator as soon as possible; DO NOT operate the LP gas system with any faulty component in place.

Occasionally, the inherent moisture in the LP gas can cause a freeze-up of the regulator when the gas passes through the regulator. The regulator reduces the high pressure of the gas on its inlet side to a reduced pressure on its outlet side by permitting a controlled expansion of the gas through the regulator—this gas expansion necessarily cools the gas (by means of the Joule-Thompson effect) and, if cooled enough, may cause any moisture content to freeze.

To minimize or negate this possibility, always keep the main valve to the LP gas tank closed when the system is not in use. When the LP tank is empty, keep the main valve closed until re-filling is to be performed—this process will keep any moisture-laden air from back-flowing into the gas system and trapping unwanted moisture in the LP gas tank.

If an empty LP gas tank has been exposed to the atmosphere for an extended time, let a qualified service technician purge the tank before its next filling operation.

Important

When a LP gas regulator is installed or re-installed, the regulator must always be installed with the gas diaphragm vent facing downwards. For more information, consult the manufacturer’s literature in your Owner’s Information Package that came with the motor home.

LP Gas Detector

Warning

Liquid Propane (LP) is extremely flammable and, when contained, explosive when mixed with air. Consequently, never check for leaks in LP gas lines or appliances with an open flame or sparking devices. Do not use any ammoniated or chlorinated household-type detergents for “bubble testing” possible leak sites—these detergents may generate fissures or cracks on the metal tubing (e.g., copper) and flared fittings (e.g., brass). Have your LP gas system leaks repaired ONLY by a qualified service technician; do not attempt these yourself. Keep the main valve to the LP gas tank closed and all appliances turned “off” when the motor home is stored. If any of the valves do not close “leak-tight” by hand, have those valves examined and repaired by a qualified service technician. DO NOT, under any circumstances, attempt to use a faulty LP gas system and/or appliances as such represents a safety hazard.

Since LP (i.e., liquid propane) gas is more dense than air, the LP gas will naturally settle to the lowest point in an enclosed space—in the motor home, this would be the floor. Because of this fact, the LP gas detector is necessarily mounted close to the floor. To activate the LP-gas sensor on this detector for the first time, remove the sensor activation strip, if such was not performed during the pre-delivery inspection.

Please check the LP gas detector to verify that the detector was properly activated and is ready to provide the necessary protection. If in doubt, please contact any qualified service technician for more detailed assistance.

This gas detector or sensor is also sensitive to other, related petroleum-based products, such as butane (present as a propellant in some hair sprays or in butane lighters). Should the gas detector sound an alarm from a suspected butane source, one can reset the alarm by pressing the reset button to stop the alarm temporarily for 60 seconds or so.

If the alarm persists in re-arming and giving further alarms; ventilate the motor home (by opening doors and windows) and then check for possible LP gas leaks. If the leak cannot be readily found, then close the main valve to the LP tank and turn “off” all gas appliances and then take the motor home to a qualified service technician after the ventilation process is concluded and the doors and windows again shut.



Figure 3-4. LP Gas Detector

Major Appliances & Accessories

Refrigerator

The Allegro Bus motor home will contain a refrigerator manufactured by either of these two manufacturers: Norcold, Incorporated or The Dometic Corporation. As each of these operates somewhat differently from the other, each will be individually addressed in this section to permit the motor-home owner to use the one installed in his motor home.

When the refrigerator is in the “LP gas” mode, make sure that the main LP gas valve is in the “on” position before attempting to start the refrigerator. Please note that the refrigerator is equipped with a semi-automatic energy selector (AES) control system which can set automatically to switch between a 120-volt AC system or a LP-gas operation system.

Warning

The majority of LP gas appliances used in motor homes normally vent to the outside of the motor home. When your motor home may be parked in close proximity to a fuel pump (i.e., during re-fueling operations), it is possible that the fuel fumes could enter this type of appliance and possibly be ignited by the burner flame thereby causing a fire or explosion. Accordingly, please use extreme caution when re-fueling the motor home.

A 12-volt power supply (e.g., 12 VDC system of the motor home, auxiliary battery, converter, or motor-home engine battery) is required for proper operation of the electronic control panel. For electrical operation of the refrigerator, either the external electrical power line must be connected to the motor home or the on-board electrical generator must be running to provide the necessary 120-volt AC power. To operate the refrigerator in the LP-gas mode, the main LP gas valve must be “open.”

Norcold Refrigerator

To start the Norcold refrigerator, press the main power “on/off” button [right-hand side] to the “on” position which starts the refrigerator in the “automatic” mode. When this is done, if 120-volt AC is available to the motor home, the AC mode indicator light will light and indicate that the AC power is available to the motor home. However, if the 120-volt AC is not available, then the gas mode indicator light will be illuminated indicating that the refrigerator will be operating on the LP gas supply. To turn the refrigerator



Figure 4-1. Norcold Refrigerator Control Panel



Figure 4-2, Norcold Refrigerator

“off,” push the “on/off” button for two seconds to shut down the refrigerator.

The “temp set” button [left-hand side] controls the temperature adjustment of both the freezer and the refrigerator compartments; the selections chosen will not change if the operation mode (AC power or propane gas) changes. To select the desired degree of coldness push and hold the “temp set” button—this will step through numbers “1” through “9” where “9” the coldest setting attainable. Hold the button until the desired setting number is realized, then release the button.

The “mode” button [the middle one] controls the operation mode of the refrigerator—there is one automatic mode and three manual modes of operation. To select the desired mode, push the “mode” button and release it when the desired mode (e.g., **AU** = automatic, **AC** = AC-powered, **LP** = propane gas mode, **DC** = DC electric).

In the **automatic (AU) mode**, the refrigerator automatically selects the most efficient energy source available for operation. Should a more efficient energy source become available during the operation of the refrigeration, the automatic mode will then select it for continued operation of the refrigerator.

When 120 VAC power is available, it will be selected and the display will show “AU” “AC” flashing in the display. In about ten seconds, the display goes “off” and only a power indicator light remains “on.” If there is not any 120 VAC power available, the display will flash “AU” “LP” to indicate that LP gas is the energy source being used.

Should the refrigerator be a three-way model and neither 120 VAC nor LP gas is available, the display will flash “AU” “DC” to indicate that the refrigerator is being powered by a DC energy source (the batteries). Should there be any improper operation of the refrigerator, the display will show various error codes—the user should become familiar with those codes in the manufacturer’s literature for the refrigerator.

Manual operation can also be selected by pressing the “mode” button for the desired type of operation.

In the “LP” mode (either manual or automatic), on initial start-up of the refrigerator, ignition of the propane gas may not occur for 30 seconds. If gas ignition doesn’t occur within 30 seconds, the gas safety valve in the refrigerator will close. Then either the refrigerator selects another mode of operation (in the automatic mode) or an audible alarm sounds (in the manual LP mode) which will remain “on” until the “mode” switch to cancel that alarm. In this case, push the “on/off” switch two times to stop and re-start the refrigerator; then attempt the LP gas ignition process once more. If the gas still doesn’t ignite, check the gas supply line and consult a qualified service technician.

Should a failure occur, the display will indicate various failure codes to help the owner determine what fault or faults may have occurred so that they may be expediently addressed. Not all failure

codes will have an accompanying audible alarm, so the owner should not rely solely on the audible alarm for fault indications.

NOTE: To operate the refrigerator in the LP-gas mode, the 12 VDC power source must be operational; otherwise, the refrigerator will not operate on LP gas. If the refrigerator is operating in the LP-gas mode and the 12 VDC power is disconnected, the refrigerator will cease operating.

On the refrigerator, the “thermostat” function controls both the gas and electrical operations—this eliminates the necessity of resetting the temperature each time one switches from gas to electrical service or vice versa. Press the temperature selector button until the light near the desired setting is illuminated (“1” through “9”). After initial start-up, the “thermostat” should be moved from the coldest setting to the desired setting, which is usually around mid-range on the scale (i.e., “4” or “5”).

Dometic Refrigerator

To start the Dometic refrigerator, press the main power “on/off” button [left-hand side of panel] to the “down” position. Then press the “temperature selector” button



Figure 4-3. Dometic Refrigerator Control Panel

[right-hand side of the panel] until the desired setting is illuminated (i.e., one has selected one of the indicator lamps, each being numbered “1” through

“5,” where “1” represents “cold” and “5” represents “coldest”).

For **automatic mode** operation, press the ‘AES/Auto/Gas’ mode selector [to the right of the “on/off” switch] to turn “on” the “AES/Auto” lamp [just above that switch]. If 120 VAC is available, the AC mode indicator lamp will illuminate to indicate that the 120 VAC is being used. If 120 VAC is not available, the Gas indicator lamp will illuminate indicating that the control has automatically switched to the GAS mode.



Figure 4-4. Dometic Refrigerator

If the Check indicator lamp [center of panel] illuminates and the Gas mode indicator lamp is “off,” the controls have failed to ignite the burner in the GAS mode. GAS operation may be reset by pressing the main power “on/off” button first to the “off” position and then back to the “on” position. Finally, press the “temperature selector” button to select the desired temperature level in the refrigerator.

For operation in the **LP Gas mode**, press the “AES/Auto/Gas” mode selector button to turn “off” the “AES/Auto” lamp. The GAS mode indicator lamp will then illuminate to indicate that the refrigerator is now being powered by LP gas. Within 45 seconds the burner should be ignited and

the unit operating normally. However, on the initial start-up of the refrigerator, it may take longer than 45 seconds to allow trapped air to be purged from the LP gas line.

If the gas doesn't ignite within 45 seconds, the CHECK indicator lamp will illuminate and the GAS mode indicator lamp will go out. To reset when the CHECK indicator lamp is illuminated, press the main power "on/off" button first to turn "off" the refrigerator, then again to turn "on" the refrigerator again. NOTE: If successful operation isn't realized after one or two additional tries, do not continue attempting to use the GAS mode.

Finally, press the "temperature selector" button to choose the desired level of coldness in the refrigerator. After initial start-up, the thermostatic control should be moved from the "coldest" setting to the desired temperature range (usually "3"—the mid-point on the scale).

To turn the refrigerator "off," press the main power "on/off" button to the "off" (i.e., UP) position—this will shut off all DC power to the refrigerator including the interior light.

Microwave/Convection Range

The Allegro Bus contains a microwave/convection range. A two-burner cook-top and an optional oven may also be available for cooking in the motor home. All microwave ranges operate on 120-volt AC electrical power, supplied either by the external electrical hookup or by the onboard electrical generator in the motor home. Between the power source(s) and the microwave range is a surge protector to protect the unit from electrical transients and power surges.



Figure 4-5. Microwave/Convection Range

Touch-pad controls on the microwave range are used for operating the range (i.e., cooking temperature, mode, power level, and cooking time). For basic operating instructions on the proper use of the microwave/convection range, please consult the specific manual in the Owner's Information Package.

Air-Filtration Fan

In the Allegro Bus, the "exhaust" or air-filtration fan is built into the microwave and its function is to filter the air only; it does not exhaust to the outside. This range hood is equipped with a multi-speed fan and a light for convenient use. The hood should be used whenever any cooking is performed to filter any airborne cooking residues and heated air.

Additionally, the range hood can be used as supplemental filtration of other odors and gases including tobacco smoke, candle fumes, and related vapors. The range hood contains filters which can be removed and cleaned or replaced to assure normal operation. Consult the particular owner's manual contained in the Owner's Information Package.

Cook Top and (Optional) Oven

The Allegro Bus is equipped with a two-burner recessed cook top (or, as an option, a three-burner cook top and oven. The optional oven has a piezoelectric ignition source, rather than a pilot light, to start the oven).



Figure 4-6. Two-Burner Recessed Cook Top

To light the burners, push down on and turn the gas-control knob counterclockwise to the “Ignite” position. Continue holding down the knob fully until the spark ignites the gas; then continue holding the knob down for an additional 5-10 seconds to heat the thermocouple adequately to activate the safety mechanism.

Then release the knob and rotate it to the desired setting. To turn the burner flame “off,” turn the knob clockwise to the “off” position.

If the burner does not start after a few attempts, discontinue the process, let the released gas dissipate, then try the process again. The burner knobs operate in a counter-clockwise (CCW) manner and must be gently pushed inwards as they are being turned.

Warning

If the operating procedures for the cook top are not followed exactly, a fire or explosion may result which, in turn, may cause property damage, personal injury, or death. Do not use or store any flammable vapors or liquids in the vicinity of any appliance having an open flame or ignition device. Do not use an open flame to check fittings and gas lines for suspected leaks.

If the optional oven doesn’t have a piezoelectric ignition source, light the oven by pushing inward on the oven control knob and rotating it CCW to the “pilot on” position, then light the oven pilot light located at the back left-hand side of the oven burner—this may take a few seconds until the air in that line is purged and replaced with the LP gas.

Do not attempt to adjust the oven pilot light as it has been factory-adjusted and factory-set. To extinguish the oven pilot light when use of the oven is concluded, push inwards on the oven control knob and turn that knob clockwise (CW) to the “off” position.

The Allegro Bus is equipped with a two-burner cook top having a countertop cover matching the same décor as the counters in the motor home. This cover both provides protection to the burners when they are not in use and additional counter space, as needed.

Before any cooking on the cook top is attempted, the cover must be removed from the cook top and stowed so that the cooking surface is free and unobstructed. Do not replace the cover immediately after using the cook top; wait until those surfaces are cool to the touch before replacing the cover. Never use the cook top range when the motor home is in motion.

As a safety feature, the following label will be noted in the cooking area:

Warning

DO NOT USE cooking appliances as a heating source for the motor home. Cooking appliances require fresh air for safe operation. Before using any cooking appliance, make sure that an overhead vent or window is open and/or turn "on" an exhaust fan.

Remember that any LP gas-operated appliance in the motor home will be consuming oxygen in the motor home. If the motor home is totally closed during such operation, the oxygen level may be reduced (and the associated carbon monoxide level may be increased) thereby causing possible harm or death to the occupants through asphyxiation. Always use these appliances with proper ventilation.

DANGER – Notice -- DANGER

IF YOU SMELL GAS, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY:

Extinguish any open flames, pilot lights, and all smoking materials. Do not touch or operate any electrical appliances or switches. Immediately shut off the gas supply at the main tank valve or supply connection. Open doors, windows, and other ventilation openings. Exit the RV to allow entrapped LP gas to dissipate. Have the LP gas system checked to locate and fix the source(s) of the leakage.

TELEVISION SYSTEM OPERATION

Television Antenna

The Allegro Bus motor home is equipped with a retractable antenna for television (TV) reception of all VHF (i.e., channels 2-13) and UHF (i.e., channels 14 upwards) channels. To deploy the antenna for

proper reception of TV signals, turn the TV-antenna crank clockwise (CW) to raise the antenna; this should take about 10-15 turns until some resistance is noted.

Once the antenna has been raised, slowly rotate the antenna to receive the best picture on the channel of choice—this rotation is accomplished by pulling down on the directional handle with both hands until it disengages from the ceiling plate and then rotating the antenna until optimal reception is realized. There is an antenna power-booster switch (left-hand side of the audio-video control console—see picture on p. 4-9) which, when pushed, strengthens the signals to be received.



Figure 4-7. TV Antenna

If your location is within a metropolitan area, you may need to rotate the antenna for each different station desired to aim the antenna towards each particular station. If the location of the motor home is remote from any metropolitan area; the antenna, once positioned for a particular station, should be adequate for all other stations capable of being received. Some experimentation may be required to determine the “best” setting for each location of the motor home and the stations desired to be viewed.

Prior to moving the motor home, the TV antenna must be retracted. To lower the antenna, rotate the directional handle until the pointer on that handle is aligned with the pointer on the ceiling plate; then turn the elevating crank counter-clockwise (CCW) about 10-15 turns (until some resistance is noted) to lower the antenna and lock it into its retracted position for travel. DO NOT partially lower the antenna; it must be either fully deployed (raised) or retracted (lowered)—any intermediate position will lead to damage to the antenna itself or to the motor home.

When the TV antenna is raised and adjusted, if the TV reception is weak, blurred, or of inferior quality; examine the connections from the TV to the antenna and make sure that the power-boost switch (shown above, left) is actually “on.” If the symptoms persist, then consult your authorized service dealer.

Television Satellite Dish Control

The RV may be equipped with a TV Satellite Dish control system (Wineguard) to permit access to direct-satellite television. The television-receiver dish is controlled by a hand-cranked mechanism which deploys the dish and permits its rotation so that the desired signals may be received. Follow the directions in the Owner’s Manual for this dish-control mechanism to obtain the best orientation of the satellite dish for desired television reception. Remember, that any additional movement of the motor home after the satellite dish control has been set may possibly cause loss or degradation of satellite-television reception. In this case, please re-adjust the satellite dish to re-align that dish for optimal television reception.



Figure 4-8. Satellite Dish Control

Television Sets

The television sets furnished with the motor home are cable-ready; one is in the overhead bay above the dash and the other is in the bedroom, depending on the particular floor plan of the Allegro Bus purchased. The televisions are powered by 120-volt AC electricity; therefore, the motor home must either be plugged into an external source of AC power or using on-board power from the generator. An optional inverter would also permit the 12-volt DC power to be converted into 120-volt AC for the television(s).



Figure 4-9. Television Set

Detailed operation of the television(s) is provided in the accompanying owners manuals found in the Owner's Information Package included with the motor home. Generic operations of the television would include a basic "on/off" switch, volume "up/down" control, channel "up/down" selector, and menu "up/down" selector—these functions are found both on the television set itself and on the accompanying remote that comes with the television set.

If the motor home has been wired for satellite TV, there should be an interior jack or jacks and an exterior jack to connect the satellite system. Consult your owner's manual for the satellite system to determine the correct connections to be made.

VHS Video Cassette Recorder (VCR)

The Allegro Bus motor home is equipped with a VHS VCR as part of the total entertainment system. The VCR operation is controlled by controls both on the VCR proper and the remote furnished with the VCR. To determine the best use of the capabilities of the VCR, consult the owner's manual furnished in the Owner's Information



Figure 4-10. VHS Video Cassette Recorder

Package that came with the motor home. Specialized functions (e.g., operating all video equipment with one remote) may require specialized programming of the remote of choice to provide ease of operation.

Audio-Video Control Console

The Allegro Bus contains an audio-video control console (AVCC) to enable one to select where the TV signal is routed (i.e., front and/or rear televisions) and the VCR. The TV antenna booster is located on the left side of this console. To make the desired selection, simply press the



Figure 4-11. Audio-Video Control Console

appropriate button(s) to select what is to be viewed and where. The front television is selected by pushing button “TV 1” and the rear television (and outside television, as warranted) is selected via button “TV 2.”

One can view a different channel or input source on each of the television systems. For instance, if one should select the “ANT” option for the front television, any channels available on the antenna system can be viewed on the front television. At the same time, if one selects “VCR” for the rear television, any VHS VCR tape can be viewed on the rear television. The “AUX” position permits connection to an external cable system, satellite dish, video games, or DVD player.

AM/FM/CD Stereo System

An AM-FM stereo system with a compact-disc (CD) player is included in the motor home. This system is powered by the 12-volt DC system of the motor home and operates like any conventional car-stereo system (see Owner’s Manual for specific instructions).

For this system, there are speakers mounted in the driver-passenger area and in the living area of the motor home and there are additional speakers in the bedroom.



Figure 4-12. AM / FM / CD Stereo System

Home Theater System

The motor home may have a contemporary, home theater system which offers true surround sound for the television and also when DVD programs are viewed featuring the Dolby Surround Sound system. As this home theater system offers many entertainment options, it is worthwhile to read the manual thoroughly before attempting extensive use of this system.



Figure 4-13. Home Entertainment Theater System

This system will also play CDs and MP3 disks, among other media.

The speaker-system components provided in the Allegro Bus are located in the front part of the cabin (driver’s side and passenger’s side, respectively) and, for full surround-sound systems, two additional speakers are located further back in the cabin in the kitchen & living-room area.



Figure 4-14. Left Speaker

Although these speakers have been adjusted or oriented at the factory for proper sound distribution throughout the cabin, those speakers are



Figure 4-15. Right Speaker

readily re-adjustable to meet the specific needs of the owner.

A wing-nut on each mounting post of the speaker can be loosened, the speaker re-oriented to suit the owner's preference, and then that wing-nut can be re-tightened to lock that speaker into position. In this manner the speakers can be adjusted to the owner's personal satisfaction. Certain system-setup CDs (sometimes available from the sound-system manufacturer or from a home electronics store) can be used with the home system to help in the positioning of the speakers for optimal surround-sound characteristics.

Cable & Telephone Jack

The Allegro Bus contains an exterior cable jack and also a telephone hookup (shown in picture). This telephone connection permits the owner to access external telephone services (e.g., RV parks) so that these services are available for use within the motor home proper.



Figure 4-16. Telephone Jack

Within the motor home there are several telephone jacks (e.g., bedroom, living room) for connecting telephone(s), as desired.

Water Heater

Warning

DO NOT APPLY 110 VAC POWER to or LIGHT the water heater until after the water heater is filled with water and the water lines and heater tank are purged of any trapped air. Failure to do so will damage the water heater and may cause additional damage to the motor home.

Before the water heater is to be used, first fill the fresh water system and purge the water lines to and from the water heater by opening all the hot-water faucets until water steadily flows from each one and no "spurting" or "hissing" sounds are further heard. The water heater holds 10 gallons of water and uses either the LP gas system or the 120-volt AC electrical system to operate the heater.

Proper and safe operation of the water heater requires that all safety information provided in the owner's manual be read and understood before placing the water heater in service. Take the time to become familiar with this manual (provided in the Owner's Information Package).

The water heater is designed for operation either with LP gas or 120-volt AC electricity. Both modes of operation are now presented.

LP Gas – Electronic Ignition Operation (6-Gallon and 10-Gallon Models)

1. Turn the remote switch to the “on” position.
2. If the remote-switch light stays “on” longer than 15 seconds, turn the remote switch to the “off” position and wait 5 minutes.
3. Repeat Step One.
4. **(For 6-Gallon Models only):** For complete shut-down and also before any servicing:
 - a. Turn the remote switch to the “off” position.
 - b. Remove the red wire from the left-hand terminal of the ECO switch (ECO to valve).
5. If the water heater fails to operate because of high water temperature, the heater will go into a lockout condition (indicator light “on”). When the water eventually cools, reset the system by turning the switch to the “off” position for at least 30 seconds, then turn the switch back “on.”
6. If a lockout condition persists, contact your authorized dealer.

120-Volt AC Electrical Operation

1. For electrical operation, use the power switch on the water heater; depending on the particular model, that switch may be located either at the front or at the rear of the water heater.
2. Completely fill the water heater with water and purge the hot-water lines of any trapped air.
3. Turn the power switch located on the water heater “on.” NOTE: Turning the power “on” to the water heater without having previously covered the water-heating element with water may burn out the element and void the warranty.
4. After awhile, check the water heater for proper operation; the water temperature should be approximately 140°F (60°C).
5. If the manual-reset, high-temperature-limit switch should trip the circuit breaker; reset the switch by depressing the reset button—use a pencil or other non-metallic object to depress the reset button. If the high-temperature-limit switch should again trip the circuit breaker, contact an authorized service technician or an authorized dealer.
6. Both the electrical and gas operations of the water heater may be used simultaneously to reduce recovery time of heating water up to desired temperature.

For general maintenance of the water heater or specific information about select steps in operating the water heater, please refer to the owner’s manual for this appliance contained in the Owner’s Information Package.

Warning

DO NOT STORE any combustible or flammable substances near or adjacent to the water heater. Provide adequate space for ventilation and air circulation.

Water Heater Storage

If the motor home is to be stored during the winter months, the water heater should be drained to prevent damage caused by freezing water contained in the water heater. To drain the water heater, first turn “off” all electrical power, turn “off” the LP gas going to the water heater, then turn “off” the water pump. Open both the hot- and the cold-water faucets to drain the water lines and open the drain plug [center of picture] on the water heater to drain the entire system.

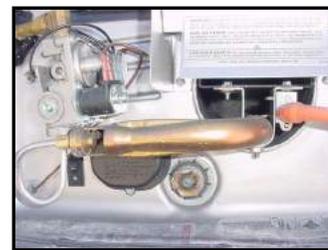


Figure 4-17. Water Heater Drain

When re-activating the water heater after the motor home is taken out of storage, make sure that the entire water system, including the water heater, has been filled with water and the lines have been purged of any entrapped air before relighting the water heater. Failure to do so may allow the water-heating element to be turned “on” before such is immersed in water; thereby, causing the premature failure of the heating element and voiding the warranty.

Pressure-Relief Valve

The relief valve for over-pressure and over-temperature conditions is located on the exterior of the water heater. This valve will operate if the water temperature reaches or exceeds 210°F or if the water pressure reaches or exceeds 150 psig. Since the water system in the motor home is a closed system when all water valves are shut, the water-heating cycle can raise the temperature (and, consequently, the pressure) of the water in the water heater; thereby realizing pressure increases approaching 150 psig. Should this pressure be reached, the pressure-relief valve will begin “weeping,” that is, minor dripping or leakage from that valve until the pressure drops below 150 psig, at which time the pressure-relief valve will re-seat itself and restrict the water flow. This is normal operation and should not be a cause for alarm. Do not obstruct or block the pressure-relief valve in any way, as this would keep the valve from functioning normally and protecting the hot water system.

CB Radio System Antenna Connection

The Allegro Bus comes equipped with an antenna and coaxial-cable connection to enable the owner to install a Citizens Band (CB) radio of choice and operate it conveniently from the Allegro Bus. The coaxial-cable connection for the radio is found beneath the dashboard on the driver’s side. Accordingly, with an owner-provided CB radio, that radio can be used to communicate with other travelers on the

road. To use the one's CB system of choice, simply follow the directions furnished with the CB radio. (Note: Channel 11 is considered an emergency channel and monitoring this channel may give one information about road conditions, accidents, and related matters potentially affecting the travels of the motor-home operator).



Figure 4-18. CB Antenna Installation

To talk with someone, simply press the “push-to-talk” switch and speak. To listen to any reply, release the “push-to-talk” switch and listen to the speaker. Remember that communications are “one-way,” not “two-way” simultaneously—one must talk, then allow some listening time for others to talk. Consequently, it's better to make brief transmissions and allow others to comment; rather than making prolonged speeches and possibly not having anyone answer. Observe the common courtesies (see the owner's manual for more details) and acceptable speech. Several states have their Highway Patrols monitor the CB frequencies (check for exact channels for each state of interest) to learn about highway problems and emergencies. Be aware of these throughout one's travels, in the event that they may be needed.

Rear-View Camera Monitor System

The rear-view monitoring system is provided to aid the driver in backing and parking the motor home.



Figure 4-19. Rear-View Monitoring System

A camera mounted on the rear of the vehicle feeds a televised view of the rear of the motor home to the monitor located in the front near the driver.

If the mode switch is in the “manual” mode, the monitor will be “on” when the ignition switch is turned “on.” If the mode switch is in the “automatic” mode, the monitor will display the picture from the rear-mounted camera only when the transmission is in “reverse” gear. To use this system effectively, please consult the owner's manual for this system; this manual is

in the Owner's Information Package.

Washer / Dryer (Optional)

If a washer/dryer unit is installed in the Allegro Bus, this appliance is essentially operated as one would normally be used in the home environment.

This appliance operates on 120-volt AC electricity, so power must be available either from an external power-line connection or from the onboard electrical generator. For specific information regarding the use of the washer or the dryer, consult the owner's manuals found in the Owner's Information Package.



Figure 4-20. Washer / Dryer

Carbon Monoxide Detector



Figure 4-21. Carbon Monoxide Detector

To protect the driver and other occupants of the motor home, the Allegro Bus is equipped with a carbon monoxide detector. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas which, when breathed, bonds to the hemoglobin in the red blood cells and, thus, drastically reduces or blocks the transfer of oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body. In sufficient concentrations, CO kills by asphyxiation. In lesser amounts, CO makes the victim groggy, lethargic, and unable to think clearly or quickly.

CO is one of the products of combustion for many materials including petroleum-based products (e.g., gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, butane; among others). Since many of the appliances and the engines associated with the motor home produce CO in their normal operations, it is necessary to assure that CO levels do not rise to dangerous levels within the motor home. In sufficiently high concentrations, CO can kill in minutes.

Consequently, the CO detector should be checked at regular intervals to assure it is in proper operating condition and that its battery is fresh. Periodic checking with the “test” button to assure normal operation of the CO detector and to allow the motor-home users to hear how the CO alarm actually sounds would be worthwhile.

Warning

Carbon monoxide gas—derived from products of combustion of diesel fuel, LP gas, and other petroleum-based products—is a deadly gas which can kill motor-home occupants, if allowed to accumulate in sufficient concentration. Assure that all engine operations are not restricted—tailpipes and exhaust ports should not be blocked or restricted in any way. Additionally, any accumulation of exhaust gases outside or underneath the vehicle should be avoided as such may enter the motor home through windows or vents—be careful how and where the motor home is parked to avoid such conditions. Regularly monitor outside conditions to assure that all exhaust gases can readily be dissipated and not enter the motor home inadvertently.

The most susceptible people to CO poisoning are unborn babies, small children, pregnant women, senior citizens, and people with cardiovascular or respiratory problems. Consequently, it is prudent to check that CO monitor regularly for normal operation and to remain aware of the symptoms of CO poisoning which include dizziness, nausea, vomiting, muscular twitching, throbbing in the temples, incoherent thinking and speech, weakness, sleepiness, and intense headaches.

Warning

Never sleep in a motor home when the engine is running—engine exhaust fumes could enter the motor home and cause disability or death. Regularly check the exhaust system to note any leakage sites and, if found, discontinue use of the motor home until they are repaired by a competent, qualified service technician. Do not attempt repairs on the exhaust system yourself and do not modify (temporarily or permanently) the exhaust system at all.

Should any of these symptoms be experienced in the motor home, one should IMMEDIATELY evacuate the motor home and seek medical help. Shut down the motor home and do not attempt to operate it again until the source(s) of the CO are located and fixed.

The CO detector digital readout will display carbon monoxide readings from 30 to 999 parts per million (ppm) of CO in the ambient atmosphere within the motor home. Under normal operating conditions in the motor home, the display reading should be zero.

Besides taking CO readings every 30 seconds, the CO detector also will indicate the status of the battery life with a LCD (liquid-crystal display) icon and the operating condition of the sensor on the digital display by means of a “beeping” sound and a flashing red light.

The motor-home owner should become quite familiar with these digital-display readings and check them regularly and frequently. The display will also indicate possible sensor malfunctions and low-battery-voltage conditions (i.e., flashing red light and “chirping” of alarm). In the event of an alarm, the following steps should be taken quickly:

1. Operate the Test/Reset button to see if the alarm can be reset (i.e., a false alarm condition). Do this ONLY ONCE; then move to Step 2.
2. Immediately move to a source of fresh air, either outdoors or by an open door or window. Do a “head count” to make sure that all people (and pets!) within the motor home have moved to a source of fresh air, too. Do not reenter the motor home or move away from the source(s) of fresh air until the emergency responders have arrived, the motor-home interior is sufficiently aired out, and the alarm has reverted to its normal monitoring function (i.e., no alarms).
3. Call the local emergency services (i.e., 911 in most locales) to summon help – don’t go back into motor home to make this call, but use a cell phone, if available, or have someone else nearby make this call.
4. Should the CO Detector Alarm again activate within a 24-hour period, repeat Steps 1 through 3 and also call a qualified service technician to investigate the possible sources of CO (e.g., fuel-burning equipment and appliances) to locate, identify, and fix such.

Cabinets & Furniture

Cabinets

Your Allegro Bus contains cabinetry installed throughout the entire motor home from the driver's area, through the kitchen/dining areas, and back into the bedroom. The cabinetry has been designed and built to provide ample storage space, to be easily accessible, and to be conveniently located to support the areas of concern. Construction of these cabinets incorporates various hardwoods, raised panels, cabinet doors, and supports. Door pulls, handles, and knobs are installed in a style complementing the particular décor of each Allegro Bus so that an aesthetically-pleasing, as well as fully functional, storage capacity is realized.



Figure 5-1. Driver's Console Cabinet

For the many floor plans available in the Allegro Bus product line, cabinet design has been optimized to provide maximal storage for each and every floor plan available. Accordingly, the Allegro Bus can readily accommodate the routine materials, supplies, and customer-specific items desired for any travel requirements. Further, these cabinets are designed to contain stored supplies quite securely during travel to minimize or eliminate the possibility of shifting or spilling of cabinet contents during travel. Yet, when the motor home is parked, all stored items are readily available in the cabinets for the convenience of the users.

As the storage requirements will vary somewhat from one floor plan to another, general observations can be made about the Tiffin-supplied cabinetry which may or may not be applicable for your specific Allegro Bus configuration.



Figure 5-2. Bathroom & Bedroom Cabinetry

Based on Tiffin Motorhomes' extensive experience with travel requirements of the seasoned motor-home users and from Tiffin Motorhomes' own research and development in cabinet-design requirements, the resultant cabinets offer the greatest storage capacity possible.

In the bathroom and bedroom, additional cabinets are available for storage of sundries and toiletries specific to these areas.

In the kitchen, a color-coordinated countertop is provided

Cabinets are provided in the kitchen/dining area to accommodate the routine cooking utensils and groceries normally desired for travel. Storage space within these cabinets has been so designed to accommodate the typical sizes and configurations of food supplies (e.g., cereal boxes, condiments, canned goods, bottled liquids) normally taken on travel trips. Based on Tiffin Motorhomes' extensive experience with



Figure 5-3. Kitchen Cabinetry

on top of the floor-mounted cabinets. To maintain the appearance of the countertop, clean with a damp cloth. If spotting occurs, clean the countertop with a damp cloth and a mild liquid soap. Should



Figure 5-4. Kitchen Countertops

some dried-on residue still persist, let a damp cloth moistened with the liquid cleaner stand directly on top of that residue for 15-30 minutes to loosen the residue, then clean that spot accordingly. Please note that strong chemicals, solvents, and cleaners (e.g., oven cleaner) may damage the surface; so do not use any products not specifically designed for countertop cleaning.

The countertop may be physically damaged, too, if proper care is not taken. Do not cut anything (e.g., vegetables, fruits) directly on the countertop; rather, use a cutting board on top of the countertop to provide necessary protection to the countertop. Excessive heat may also damage the countertop; therefore, any pots or pans taken directly from the range or oven should not be placed directly on the countertop; rather, use trivets or some other form of fireproof heat insulators to hold very hot pots or pans on the countertop.

All drawers are equipped with metal slides to provide additional load-bearing strength for the drawers and to permit effortless opening and closing of those drawers, even when they are fully loaded. These metal guides have a slight “locking” action, when closed. To open those drawers, slightly lift up on the drawer handle and then pull the drawer open. To close, push the drawer closed until it “clicks” back into place (i.e., the locking action is engaged).

As this cabinetry is typically of furniture-grade quality, any commercial furniture polish or cleaner can be used. Do not try to soak these wooden surfaces with any water or any other liquid; be sure to wipe up spills or residues of any fluids that contact these surfaces to preclude any staining or discoloration of the cabinet surfaces.

Furniture

Kitchen, Dining, & Living Room Areas

On all the various floor plans of the Allegro Bus, a built-in dinette booth is standard; a free-standing table is optional. This dinette provides additional storage under the seat area of the booth, in addition to providing additional sleeping facilities. The sleeping area is realized by lowering the dinette-table top and rearranging the seating cushions. Specific directions for converting the booth dinette into a bed are as follows:

1. Remove the seat cushions.



Figure 5-5. Dinette Booth

2. Remove the wooden fill blocks.
3. Fold the table leg upwards, while slightly lifting the table, allow the table to swing down and rest between the two booth seats; thus, forming the bed.
4. Reinstall the seat cushions and back rests to make up the mattress for the bed.



Figure 5-6. Dinette Converted into Bed

The living room contains a standard sofa which converts into a bed, as required. The sofa is custom coordinated with the décor of the motor home. To convert the sofa into a bed, follow these directions:

1. Remove the accent pillows.
2. Under a seat cushion locate the “black tab” and slide the tab to the left or the right and then pull upwards on the seat portion of the sofa—this will cause the sofa seat to open, extend, and convert into a bed.

There may also be a swivel rocker/recliner with adjustable headrest, also coordinated with the décor of the motor home.

The driver’s seat is an electric-powered, six-way power seat (i.e., movement: up, down, forward tilt, reverse tilt) having swivel features (and recline features for the passenger seat only). When the motor home is parked, the driver’s seat can be swiveled to face into the living room. To swivel this chair, first extend the slide-out room (see Chapter 8 for additional detail). Then move the chair backwards as far as possible to gain clearance from the steering wheel. Now the chair can be swiveled without interference. The control switch for the driver’s chair is located on the left-hand side in front of the power base controls. In a comparable manner, the passenger’s seat is also an electric-powered, six-way seat having essentially the same controls as that of the driver’s seat and it is operated accordingly.

Bedroom Area



Figure 5-7. Bedroom Decor

If a décor-coordinated, quilted bedspread with accessorized pillow shams and accent pillow(s) are included with the bedroom suite, it is recommended that the bedspread be dry-cleaned only to preserve the quality and integrity of the bedspread for the longest time possible. Treatment of the bedspread with any of the stain-resistant sprays (e.g., Scotchgard or its equivalent) will also make the bedspread more resistant to the possibilities of stains and fabric damage. If maintained properly, the bedroom soft-goods accessories will provide years of dependable service and maintain the desired décor established by the motor-home owner.

Structural Features

Chassis Features

The chassis of your Tiffin Motorhomes Allegro Bus was built and is warranted by Freightliner, the chassis manufacturer. The operating instructions for that chassis are included in the Chassis Owner’s Manual which is provided with your Allegro Bus and is a part of the Owner’s Information Package furnished to you by your Tiffin Motorhomes Dealership. Before you begin using your Allegro Bus, please read and follow all recommendations for the proper care, operation, and maintenance of the chassis—this will assure you of pleasant, trouble-free use of vehicle. Should you have any questions about the chassis, however, you should contact your chassis manufacturer as noted in the literature described earlier.



Figure 6-1. Freightliner Chassis

TYPICAL CHASSIS ITEMS COVERED UNDER WARRANTY BY THE CHASSIS MANUFACTURER
Steering Wheel and System
Instrument Panel
Engine
Transmission
Chassis Frame
Axles
Fuel Tank
Suspension and Springs (Front-End Alignment is not covered)
Tires and Wheels and Brakes
Exhaust System
Leaf Springs

Alignment

The Allegro Bus motor home you have purchased has been aligned at the factory prior to shipment to you. During the first 10,000 miles of operation of your Allegro Bus, the chassis will have a tendency to “settle” and readjust itself in response to the loading of your vehicle. Although it normally is not necessary to realign the Allegro Bus before the first 10,000 miles of use; it is, nonetheless, recommended that you have the Allegro Bus alignment checked after the first loading of the vehicle. However, if you feel that you have noted some discrepancy or anomaly in steering operation, please contact your chassis manufacturer or call Tiffin Customer Service at (256) 356-8661 to address your concerns.

Electrical Features

General Information

There are two electrical systems in your Allegro Bus motor home—these are the 12-volt DC (VDC) system and the 120-volt AC (VAC) system. Most standard appliances require the 120-VAC system, while the majority of the lighting systems used in the Allegro Bus use the 12-VDC system.

The electrical power for the 12 VDC system is supplied by the batteries of the Allegro Bus; those batteries are, in turn, charged by a power converter. The electrical power for the 120 VAC is supplied by the power cord when the Allegro Bus is connected to an external power source or when the on-board electrical generator is in operation.

If installed, the optional inverter can also supply 120 VAC electrical power (to limited outlets and limited appliances)—the inverter transforms the 12 VDC electrical power from the batteries into the 120 VAC electrical power for the basic appliances.

Caution

Failure to turn off the 120 VAC appliances when starting or stopping the generator may damage the transfer switch and/or electrical appliances.

To connect the Allegro Bus to an external source of 120 VAC electrical power, it is first recommended that all of the circuit breakers are in the “off” position—this is done to prevent any power surge upon connecting the motor home to the external power source.

Then unwind the power cord from the electrical compartment located in the compartment behind the driver’s-side rear tires. The standard, flexible, power cord supplied with the Allegro Bus is designed to handle up to 50 amperes.

Make sure that the pins in the male end of the plug are oriented correctly so that they match the power cable, and that they are in good condition (i.e., aren’t bent or damaged). If there is a circuit breaker switch at the “plug” end of the power cord, that breaker should be turned “off” before making the connection. Insert the plug into the mating outlet and then turn the circuit breaker “on.”

Close and lock the electrical compartment door to protect the contents and to keep them clean and dry. Close the cover on the power box, if so equipped, to avoid an unintentional disconnection and to keep the contents clean and dry. Then switch the main breaker to the “on” position.

When properly connected, the 120 VAC system provides power to all the 120 VAC circuits and outlets when the main breaker is turned “on.”

Circuit-Breaker Boxes

For the Allegro Bus, the 120 VAC breaker box and a separate 12 VDC breaker box are typically located



Figure 7-1. Circuit Breaker Box

beneath the refrigerator or in the bedroom [*if inside the vehicle*] or in the storage box [*if outside the vehicle*]. The circuit breakers and associated fuses are installed to protect the electrical system of the Allegro Bus from any overloads. Do not attempt to change the electrical circuitry or to add appliances yourself.

Please consult an authorized Tiffin Motorhomes Dealership or Tiffin Motorhomes, Incorporated in Red Bay, AL to determine whether any changes you desire are appropriate and acceptable. Tiffin Motorhomes' qualified staff of electricians can readily determine whether any changes sought (e.g., CB radio, amateur radio, satellite television receiver, personal computer system, and the like) are possible or not and can advise you on how best to realize these enhancements. Please note that the 12VDC fuses are located in the same compartment in the same distribution bay as the 120 VAC breakers. Fusing is provided for the following 12 VDC circuits: All interior decorative and overhead lighting, water heater, TV switching box, slide-out lights, power roof vents, monitor panel, and passenger-side console switch panel.



Figure 7-2. 12 VDC Fuse Panels

Additional 12 VDC fuse panels are located in the front storage compartment on the driver's side; these fuse panels provide protection for the following circuits: Mirrors, fog lights, hydraulic jacks, camera, wipers, docking lights, dashboard panels, spot light, power seats, radio, step cover, satellite receiver, 30-ampere ignition breaker, 50-ampere ignition breaker, and dashboard air circuit breaker. These fuse panels are protected by a plexiglass shield to prevent accidental short-circuiting of the 12 VDC power system. To protect this 12 VDC system further, **DO NOT STORE anything** in this compartment (e.g., toolbox) which may jostle around, break through the shield, and short out the 12 VDC

system—if this system were short-circuited, extensive damage and/or fire could result. Located on the passenger-side rear compartment is another circuit panel which contains the following circuit breakers: Slide-outs, 12 VDC disconnect, storage box lights, and solenoids.

Warning

When any fuse is to be replaced, never replace a blown fuse with another fuse with a larger current rating (e.g., amperes) than the original rating of the fuse being replaced—to do so would probably damage circuits and/or equipment and cause harm, injury, or death to nearby persons.

Auxiliary Start Switch

The auxiliary start switch is located on the driver's-side console box. This switch briefly connects the



Figure 7-3.
Auxiliary Start
Switch

Allegro Bus coach batteries to the chassis batteries—this allows the chassis batteries to “borrow” power from the coach batteries to assist in starting the engine.

If the chassis batteries cannot themselves start the engine in the “normal” mode, hold down the battery-boost switch and retry starting the engine.

By using the battery-boost switch while trying to start the Allegro Bus engine, a jump-start situation is realized between the coach and chassis batteries.

If the battery-boost switch is required to start the engine on a regular basis, ask your Tiffin Motorhomes Dealership to check the chassis batteries and the associated charging system.



Figure 7-4. Driver's Side

Battery Inspection and Care

The 12-VDC electrical-power system consists of four 6-VDC batteries wired in a series-parallel combination to provide a final, 12 VDC system providing up to 450 Ampere-hours (A-hr) of service.

As the batteries contain a significant amount of electrical energy, they must be handled with due diligence and care. Some of the routine precautions include:

Warning

Remove rings, metal watchbands, and any other metal jewelry before working around batteries. If any metallic object (tool, jewelry, etc.) contacts the positive battery terminal or any connection made to that terminal AND also contacts the negative terminal or any of its connections, a SEVERE ELECTRICAL SHORT will occur which could result in an explosion, fire, and/or personal injury. Lead-acid batteries contain diluted sulfuric acid which can be dangerous; avoid direct contact with any battery fluids. Wear eye protection.

Caution

Disconnect the 120 VAC electrical power cord and the negative terminal from the coach batteries BEFORE working on the Allegro Bus electrical system.

Caution

If the Allegro Bus ever requires any welding operations on the frame, first disconnect the chassis batteries. Failure to do so will destroy all of the chassis computer system.

When batteries are not used for extended periods of time, they will gradually lose their electrical charge. Therefore, it is necessary periodically to recharge the batteries to increase the operational lives of the batteries. It is also necessary to check the external condition of the batteries on a regular basis. Look for cracks in the battery case and cover. Check the vent plugs and replace them if they are cracked or broken. Keep the battery clean.

Since accumulations of dirt and acid residue around the battery terminals may provide an electrical path for discharging the battery, the area around the terminals should be cleaned periodically. One can use an old toothbrush and a sparse amount of a diluted solution of baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) and water (distilled or de-ionized, preferred; tap water, acceptable) to clean and neutralize any acidic build-up around the battery terminals.



Figure 7-5. 12 VDC Battery Supply (Compartment)

If there is any foaming on the top of the battery, this indicates that acidic residues are being neutralized. Rinse the cleaned areas thoroughly with distilled or de-ionized water (tap water is okay, too).

Avoid getting the baking-soda solution into the battery fill plugs to each battery cell; this would drastically reduce the effectiveness of the battery (by neutralizing the sulfuric acid in the battery cells) or, worse, “kill” the battery. Dry the battery cables and terminals to prevent corrosion; to protect those terminals further, use a plastic ignition spray on the terminals. Do not use grease on the terminals, especially on the metal-to-metal connections, as grease may act as an insulator and keep the battery electrical power from entering the cables.

If the batteries are not going to be used for an extended period of time, they should be removed from the Allegro Bus and stored in a warm, dry place. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that this service be performed by a qualified service technician, as the process is usually too complicated for the average owner to perform.

For those who may wish to perform this service themselves, the following procedure is described: Mark the battery cables (“ + ” [plus] sign or “red” for the positive cable; “ - ” [minus] sign or “black” for

the negative cable) so that they can be properly reconnected again later. These batteries would require periodic recharging to maintain their full charge.

Additionally, the batteries will, over time, lose some of the water used with the sulfuric acid in the batteries. Following manufacturer’s recommendations as found in the Owner’s Information Package, periodically check the fluid levels in all the cells of the batteries (be sure to use safety eyewear during this process) and fill those that are low with water (distilled or de-ionized water is preferred; tap water is okay).

Don’t overfill the cells; follow the filling directions exactly. This battery checkup should be done on a regular basis to realize the fullest service possible from the batteries over the longest time possible.

If the Allegro Bus is to be stored for an extended period of time, the 12 VDC battery system should be disconnected—this will prevent unnecessary drain and corrosion of the batteries and their terminals.

Battery Disconnect Panel

The battery disconnect panel is located inside the battery storage compartment. There is a rotary switch



Figure 7-6. Rotary Switch to Disconnect Engine Battery

on the upper left-hand side of the compartment which can disconnect the engine battery when the vehicle is to be stored for any appreciable time. Rotating this switch disconnects the engine batteries only, not the house batteries. This feature is designed to prevent the engine batteries from being drained during storage.



Figure 7-7. Rotary Switch to Disconnect “House” Batteries

This switch also disconnects all the 12 VDC circuitry from the batteries; thus removing the total electrical load from those batteries, with the exception of the LP detector. On the upper, right-hand side of that compartment is another rotary switch which, when activated, disconnects the “house” batteries (i.e., the 12 VDC system for the motor home). When the Allegro Bus is to be stored for any length of time, it is wise to disconnect these two 12 VDC systems.

When the Allegro Bus is removed from storage, rotate the upper, left-hand switch to reconnect the 12 VDC circuitry to the coach batteries again and rotate the upper, right-hand switch to reconnect the “house” battery—the 12 VDC systems are now reactivated. The Freightliner chassis of the Allegro Bus may be equipped with a second disconnect switch strictly for the chassis batteries.

If your Allegro Bus is so equipped, this “master kill switch” may be located in the rear engine compartment. This switch disconnects all power to the coach so that the coach cannot be started. This switch is used to prevent the ignition circuitry from being accidentally turned on when the engine is being serviced.

For routine, short-term use, there is a “12 VDC disconnect” switch on the switch console located in the stairwell of the Allegro Bus. This switch—located in the upper, left-hand corner of the switch console—can be used to disconnect the “house” battery from most of the 12 VDC circuits in the motor home so that there is no inadvertent drain on the battery while the owner is away from the motor home (e.g., shopping trips, day trips for sightseeing).



Figure 7-8.
12 VDC
Disconnect
Switch

It is a good idea to develop the habit of disconnecting the 12 VDC “house” battery system whenever one leaves the motor home for the better part of a day so that the “house” battery is protected. Additionally, it is worthwhile to check the fluid levels in the batteries constituting the 12 VDC “house” battery system to make sure that all fluid levels are properly maintained; otherwise, a full charge cannot be maintained in the batteries.

120-Volt AC (VAC) Receptacles

Your Allegro Bus Motor Home is equipped with several 120 VAC receptacles located throughout the interior of the motor home. These 120 VAC receptacles are of the “three-prong” variety; the third prong being a grounding pin which provides adequate grounding to protect one from any electrical shock.



Figure 7-9. 120 VAC Outlets

For these receptacles to work properly, do not use an adapter, cheater, or extension cord which defeats the function of the grounding pin. For the same reason, never remove or bend away the ground prong or pin from any three-prong AC plug so that it would fit a two-prong AC receptacle (i.e., an ungrounded AC receptacle).

Never operate the Allegro Bus if there is an electrical short present, as an electrical short may deliver an electrical shock to anyone coming in contact with the exterior of the unit. If you should feel even the slightest of electrical shock, immediately disconnect the unit from the 120 VAC power source and locate the electrical fault (i.e., typically, it is a break in the grounding circuit).

Do not reconnect the 120 VAC power until after that electrical fault is fixed—the grounding circuit must be continuous from the frame to the distribution panel, to the power cord, and to the earth ground so that electrical-shock protection is realized.

12-Volt DC (VDC) Receptacles

Your Allegro Bus Motor Home may be equipped with a 12 VDC receptacle conveniently located on the dashboard or bulkhead. This 12 VDC receptacle can be used for providing power to various items, such as cellular phones or personal computers or portable communications equipment.



Figure 7-10.
12 VDC Outlet

This receptacle is usually found on the bulkhead or on the dashboard (i.e., the connector

in the picture on the left) in front of the passenger's seat so that it is conveniently available to be used by the personnel in the cockpit area.

Ground-Fault-Circuit-Interrupt (GFCI) Receptacles

In the kitchen and bath areas, there are 120 VAC GFCI receptacles which provide greater protection against inadvertent electrical shocks. These specialized GFCI receptacles provide both overload and short-circuit protection for the user. The electrical receptacles located in the slide-out are wired through the kitchen GFCI. The exterior receptacles are wired through the bathroom GFCI. Consequently, if an appliance plugged into a slide-out or exterior receptacle is not working, check for a tripped GFCI in the kitchen or bathroom.



Figure 7-11. Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupt (GFI)

In addition, these receptacles protect the user from ground faults between an electrically “hot” wire and ground. The GFCI will not reduce the shock hazard if the short is between a neutral and “hot” wire or two “hot-lead” wires.

The GFCI should be tested at least once a month. The 120 VAC electrical system must be “on” for the GFCI to be tested. To test the GFCI the reset button needs to be pushed in fully before starting the test. Push the test button; this will cause the reset button to pop out which means that the protected circuits have been disconnected. Push the reset button back in until a “click” is heard—this will re-activate the protected circuit. If the GFCI is working properly, the reset button will remain in the “in” position.

ICC [Interstate Commerce Commission] Switch



Figure 7-12. ICC Switch

On the driver's side console, one will notice a switch labeled “ICC.” This switch is a momentary pushbutton switch—it is active only when the switch is being pressed. This switch enables the driver to communicate with other traffic by flashing the clearance and sidelights of the Allegro Bus. If the lights are presently “on,” the switch will momentarily turn them “off.” If the lights are “off,” the switch will momentarily turn them “on.”

Inverter/Converter

When the 120 VAC power is not available, either from the power cord or the generator, the optional inverter/converter may be used (if such is installed in the Allegro Bus). The control panel for the inverter/converter is located above or near the entrance door.

When the inverter/converter is turned “on,” it transforms the 12 VDC power to 120 VAC power for the operation of lights, appliances, televisions, and



Figure 7-13. Inverter/Converter

ELECTRICAL FEATURES

related items. The 120 VAC power which is generated by the inverter/converter is routed to the electrical sub-panel located next to the main breaker box under the refrigerator [if inside the vehicle] or in the storage compartment [if outside the vehicle].

For proper operation of the inverter, one should initially set the inverter functions, as follows:

- **Setup Mode** – Enter the Setup Mode by pressing and holding the “Setup” pushbutton switch for 5 seconds until the LED (light-emitting diode) blinks. For the 458 Series, the Freedom Remote is connected if at least one DC Volts LED is “on.” After 5 seconds of no activity, the Freedom Remote automatically exits from the Setup Mode. In the following, additional steps, the most critical set-up settings are the “Battery Type” and “Battery Capacity,” so use care to adjust these properly.
- **Set AHRS [Battery Capacity (Ampere-hours)]** – For the Charge function, set the Ampere-hours rating of the battery bank by pressing the “Set AHRS” pushbutton switch to 400 Ampere-hours.
- **Set Idle Mode [Idle Load (Watts)]** – For the Invert function, select the idle setting by pressing the “Set Idle” pushbutton switch. If present inverter loads are less than the selected value, the inverter will remain in the Idle Mode. Idle Mode operation prevents unnecessary power drain on the battery system when no AC loads are in use. When an AC load is turned “on,” and the load wattage exceeds the idle value, the unit begins full-power inverting. When the appliance is turned “off,” the inverter then returns automatically to the Idle Mode. A setting of “zero” disables the Idle Mode. Set the Idle Mode to “zero.”
- **Set Type [Power Share (Battery Type)]** – To select the battery type, push the “Set Type” pushbutton switch to select the “wet” option.

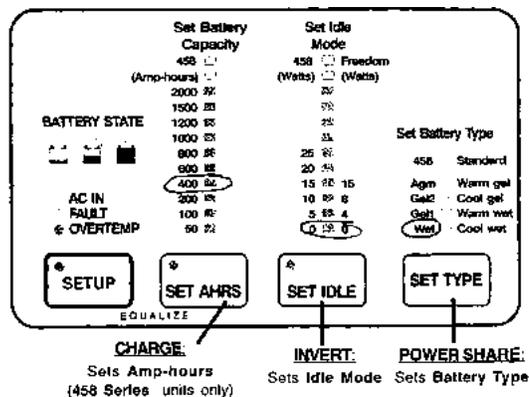


Figure 7-14. Inverter Control Panel

The breakers in the sub-panel are labeled to explain where the 120 VAC power is routed. Generally, the inverter/converter supplies power to the microwave, kitchen, bath, and bedroom lighting and select receptacles. The inverter/converter is equipped with an automatic transfer switch which allows automatic switching from inverter to converter.



Figure 7-15. Converter

When the Allegro Bus is connected to an external power source or the generator is being used to supply power, the converter will automatically switch “on” to charge the 12 VDC batteries. For more detailed information, consult the manufacturer

owner's manual located in the Owner's Information Package.

Electrical Generator

The electrical generator is located in a compartment in front of the motor home between the chassis rails on pull-out slides. The generator is mounted on slides for easy access; however, the slides must be unlocked before free movement is possible. There is a "pull" cable in the box in front of the driver's-side front tire—pulling this cable will release the slide lock for the generator.



Figure 7-16. "Pull" Cable for Generator Release

Prior to starting or stopping the generator, make sure that all the 120 VAC appliances are turned "off." After the generator has been started, wait until the transfer switch has connected before turning "on" any of the appliances.



Figure 7-17. Electrical Generator

The generator can be started from either the remote-start switch located on the dash or directly at the generator itself. The hour meter installed on the generator records the number of hours of operation of the generator motor—this elapsed time is needed for observing necessary maintenance schedules on the generator.

Caution

Failure to turn "off" the 120 VAC appliances when starting or stopping the generator may damage the transfer switch and/or electrical appliances.

For more detailed operating instructions and to determine necessary preventive-maintenance schedules and procedures, review the manufacturer owner's manual.

Automatic Transfer Switch

Your Allegro Bus is equipped with an automatic transfer switch. When the generator is turned "on," this switch automatically transfers from external power to generator power. There will be a slight delay between the start of the generator and the electrical connection being made—this delay allows the generator to reach normal operating speed without needing to supply a required load.

When the Allegro Bus is plugged into an external source, a “click” will be heard in the transfer switch box—this is a normal function and merely indicates that the unit is changing over from an external power source to the generator.

Resettable Circuit Breakers

The resettable circuit breakers are located within 18 inches of the source of power; that is, the converter and the battery. When the circuit breakers are shut down or electrically tripped, they must be manually reset. To find the circuit breakers, follow the line from the battery or converter approximately 18 inches—this may lead to a junction box or to a cabinet inside the Allegro Bus or to a similar location. As needed, manually reset the circuit breaker or breakers as shown in the accompanying picture. Be careful when working around these connections as an accidental, electrical short to ground (i.e., momentarily connecting the “positive” or “hot” terminal to any part of the chassis) can be hazardous and harmful.



Figure 7-18. Resettable Circuit Breakers

Fuse Blocks

Some of the electrical circuitry within the motor home is protected by various fusing systems. Some of these fuse blocks are immediately accessible from the driver’s side underneath the dashboard. Underneath the dashboard is an enclosure which contains fuse blocks. These fuse blocks protect some of the major electrical systems of immediate concern to the driver such as the power seats (driver’s and passenger’s), spot light, mirrors, camera, radio, and various extra fused positions. Should there be any electrical failure of these components or systems, the first troubleshooting procedure should be to check the fuses and have available replacements to replace any blown fuses, as may be warranted.

Also the Allegro Bus contains a computerized diagnostic center, located beneath the access panel on the dashboard pod, for the engine of the motor home. This center permits a computer to be connected to the onboard diagnostic center monitoring many of the operating functions and parameters of the engine so that the current operating status of the engine can be determined and any anomalies or problems may be noted. This diagnostic tool enables the motor home owner to maintain an updated status of the engine so that the overall reliability of the motor home can be maintained.

As an aid to extracting and/or installing fuses in the fuse blocks, one may wish to buy an inexpensive fuse puller at any electronics or hardware store. This tool makes the installation or removal of fuses much easier and prevents inadvertent damage to nearby fuses or the fuse block itself. Whenever a fuse has been “blown” and is to be extracted and replaced, it is good practice to examine the wiring going to that particular fuse to see if there is any noticeable degradation (e.g., wiring insulation nicked, missing, or melted) which may indicate damage beyond the fusing proper.

Warning

Never replace a fuse with a fuse rated larger than that which originally came from the factory. To do otherwise will cause serious damage, overheating of the wiring, and possible ignition of nearby materials resulting in a fire.

Seven-Pin Towing Connector

Your Allegro Bus is equipped with a standard, 7-pin connector near the towing hitch at the rear of the motor home to supply the necessary circuitry to control a towed vehicle. The wiring of that connector is shown in the accompanying diagram.

Make sure that any cable from the vehicle to be towed is wired correctly to mate properly with the connections shown in the connector. If in doubt about proper wiring, have a qualified service technician prepare and install the necessary cable to mate with the 7-pin connector on the motor home to assure proper operation subsequently when any vehicle is actually towed by the motor home.

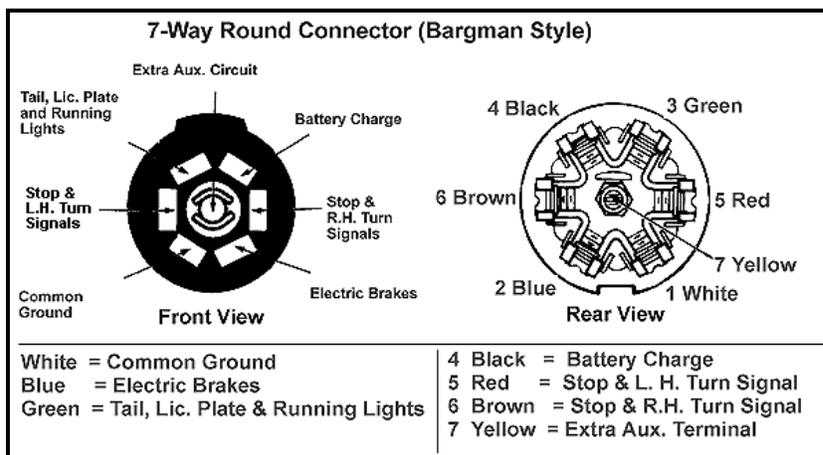
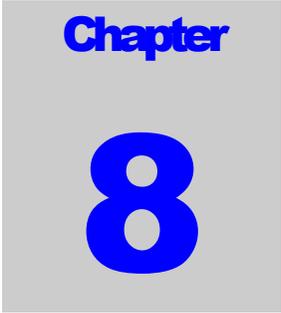


Figure 7-19. Bargman 7-Way Round Towing Connector

When the towed vehicle is uncoupled from the motor home and the cable is disconnected from the 7-pin connector, be sure to close the spring-hinged cover plate on the connector to protect the contact pins from dirt or debris. In a similar manner, protect the cable end from similar damage, weather, or debris—one such method could be to place the connector end in a heavy-gauge plastic bag (e.g., polypropylene, polyethylene, etc.) and secure the bag tightly around the cable with a stout elastic band or tape and then mount the secured cable in a manner to keep it both from mechanical damage and water intrusion.

When the towed vehicle is again coupled to the motor home via the towing hitch and the cable is again connected to the 7-pin connector, make sure the resultant connection is tight and solid so that the connection won't jar loose during use. Several supplemental methods to secure that connection have been used; some of which include securing the connection with a strong rubber band or with Velcro-type fasteners to provide a supplemental mechanical backup to the actual electromechanical connection.

Should a conversion adapter to convert the round, seven-pin connector to a flat, four-pin connector be needed; such an adapter may be purchased from any RV after-market store.



Slide-Out Features

SLIDE-OUT OVERVIEW

Warning

BEFORE ACTIVATING THE SLIDE-OUT FEATURES, please read the slide-out room instruction manual first. Additionally, the motor home must be parked and the leveling jacks must be used to level the motor home **PRIOR** to activating the slide-out features.

General Considerations

Please Note

The Slide-Out Room requires semi-annual inspection (i.e., every six months) to assure that the slide-out mechanism is properly aligned and functioning correctly. Please make sure that this inspection is performed every six months to correct any possible misalignments.

The slide-out-room feature is actuated by means of a readily accessible, slide-out switch. The rocker switch must be manually held down in the desired position (i.e., either “in” or “out”) to activate the desired action of the slide-out room and continue to be held down until the desired action is concluded. **NOTE: The slide-out switch will only operate when the ignition switch is in the “off” position**—there is an interlock which keeps the slide-out mechanism from operating when the ignition is “on.” Releasing the rocker switch before the slide-out is fully extended or retracted will stop the slide-out at some intermediate position.

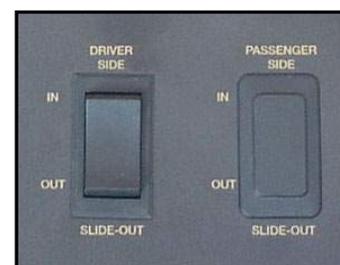


Figure 8-1. Slide-Out Switches

Operating Precautions

Warning

Before attempting any extension of the slide-out room, check outside and make sure that there is at least a five-foot clearance around the area where the slide-out room will be extended.

Before the slide-out-room mechanism is to be used, make sure that the motor home is parked, the leveling process has been properly completed. Verify that no obstacles (e.g., branches, trees, telephone poles, power/water hookups, trash bins, and the like) are within a five-foot space envelope of that slide-out room to preclude damaging the slide-out room when it is finally deployed.

Extending the Slide-Out Room

1. All windows in the slide-out room must be closed and secured before the slide-out room is to be extended or retracted. Also any loose materials or possible obstructions should be removed from the immediate slide-out room area. Make sure the motor home has been leveled. Make sure that the battery is fully charged and connected to the electrical system.
2. Verify that there are no obstructions outside which may interfere with the operation of the slide-out room.
3. Prior to moving the slide-out room in either direction, make sure that the driver's chair is moved forward into the driving area as far as possible and is locked into position.
4. Make sure that the ignition switch is in the "off" position prior to using the slide-out function; if the ignition switch is "on," the slide-out mechanism won't work.
5. Push the "out" portion of the rocker switch; allow the slide-out room to go to its fully extended position—at this point, release the rocker switch (this locks the room into position).



Figure 8-2. Typical Allegro Bus Slide-Out

Retracting the Slide-Out Room

1. Before attempting to move the motor home, the slide-out room must be fully retracted.
2. Verify that the battery is fully charged and connected to the electrical system.
3. With the ignition switch in the "off" position, push the "in" portion of the rocker switch; allow the slide-out room to go to its fully-retracted position—at this point, release the rocker switch (this locks the room into position).

Manual Operation: Slide-Out Room

Your Power Gear slide-out system is equipped with a manual override that allows one to extend or retract the room in the event of a loss of power.

Please Note

If the slide-out room doesn't move when the rocker switch is depressed, check the following:

Make sure the ignition switch is turned "off."

Make sure the battery is fully charged and connected.

Make sure the slide-out breakers haven't been "tripped." These are located in the storage box with the inverter/converter.

After the previous items have been checked and verified and the slide-out room still does not move when the rocker switch is pressed, follow these simple steps to override the slide-out room manually.

1. Turn "off" the ignition switch.
2. Locate the slide-out electrical controller (refer to your Tiffin Motorhomes dealer or the Tiffin Motorhomes factory for its location). There are two versions of the controller. For version 1, unplug the six-pin wiring harness to the controller. For version 2, remove one of the motor leads (either the motor I or the motor II lead from the controller).
3. Locate the slide-out motor; it will be mounted to one side of the slide-out rails. NOTE: If the motor home has an underbelly or a cover over the motor, these parts must be removed for access.
4. Rotate the brake lever, on the backside of the motor, counterclockwise (CCW) (looking from the rear of the motor) about 1/8 of a turn to the released position. This action will release the brake that holds the room in place.
5. Locate the manual override for the slide-out system.
6. The room is now free to move. Using a 3/4" wrench, crank the room either "in" or "out" completely (depending on your needs).

Figure 8-3. Manual Slide-Out Deployment Sequence



SLIDE-OUT FEATURES

NOTE: If the slide-out system is supplied with a gearbox override (optional), use the crank handle to move the room.

7. When the room has fully moved “in” or “out,” apply pressure to the wrench or ratchet and return the brake lever to its engaged position—this will assure that the room is locked into a secured position.
8. Take the unit to an authorized dealer for service.

Exterior Features

On the rear of the Allegro Bus can be found a Class 3, 10,000-pound towing hitch capable of handling a tongue weight of 1,000 pounds. This hitch is installed for towing a passenger car to be used when the vehicle is parked. The wire connector installed with this hitch is a standard, seven-pin connector. For more information on the connector, please see Chapter 7 of this Owner’s Manual.

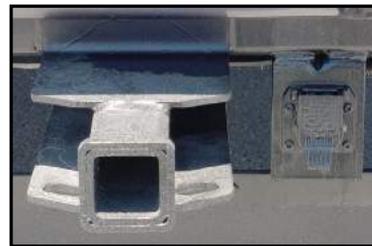


Figure 9-1. Towing Hitch

Exterior Sides

The sides of your Allegro Bus are constructed of gel-coated fiberglass. To add to this feature, the end caps are also gel-coated fiberglass. To clean these fiberglass surfaces, only use warm water and a mild cleanser; gently wash with soft cloths. Use of stiff bristle brushes or other harsh abrasives may cause scratches in the fiberglass surfaces. Please note: Tiffin Motorhomes is NOT responsible for the weathering/oxidation of gel-coated surfaces.



Figure 9-2. Allegro Bus Exterior

Lighted storage compartments are located on the exterior sides of your Allegro Bus. These external compartments provide ample, additional space for your belongings while you are traveling. When stowing materials in these storage compartments, try to “balance” the resultant weight load from front to rear and from side to side—this will keep the center of gravity of the motor home essentially unchanged and should not adversely affect the handling characteristics of the motor home when it is in motion.

Security Lights



Figure 9-3. Security Lights

On the Allegro Bus, exterior security lights are standard features. A light is installed on the passenger side of the coach to help light that side of the Allegro Bus for added protection. This light can serve as a “porch light” when the motor home is parked and the awning is deployed so that various activities (e.g., sitting outside, grilling, visiting) at dusk and later can be enjoyed by the motor-home owners and their guests.

Roof & Ladder

The Allegro Bus is manufactured with a fiberglass roof. Proper care and routine maintenance of your roof will assure many years of trouble-free performance. Please see Chapter 14 for details on recommended cleaning instructions. On the Allegro Bus, a roof ladder may also be included as an additional feature. The ladder is typically used to



Figure 9-4. Ladder

EXTERIOR FEATURES

permit easy access to the roof for routine maintenance and periodic inspections. The ladder comes in two sections; the upper section is attached to the motor home; while the lower section is removable and must be stored after use. When attaching the lower part of that ladder to its upper part, be sure that the ball-lock pin is securely fastened through the locking device to secure the ladder assembly.

Warning

Do not exceed the maximum rating of the ladder (i.e., 200-pound load limit).

Do not attempt to walk on the roof either while it is wet or when condensation is present from the air-conditioning system, as that surface would be quite slippery.

Hydraulic Leveling Jacks

Warning

If the vehicle is equipped with a slide-out, DO NOT OPERATE any room extension until the leveling and stabilizing procedure has been properly completed. DO NOT RETRACT the leveling system until the slide-out room has been retracted. NEVER operate the leveling system when the slide-out is extended.

The Allegro Bus is equipped with hydraulic-leveling jacks. These jacks work in pairs: Front, right side, left side, and rear. Before extending these jacks, the engine must be “off,” the ignition switch must be in the “ACC” position, and the transmission must be in “park.” The parking brake needs to be set and the tires blocked securely; then the leveling jacks can be activated.

Caution

DO NOT LIFT the wheels of the motor home off the ground when leveling—if done, the motor home can roll forwards or backwards when supported only by the leveling jacks. Never use the jacks to lift the motor home off the ground to change the tires or perform any under-chassis maintenance—these jacks are not meant for this type of service and this misuse would be very dangerous to the operator.

HWH Leveling Control Panel

The HWH Computerized Leveling system which requires minimal effort from the motor-home user. For automatic leveling of the motor home, perform the following steps:

Automatic Leveling:

1. Turn the ignition switch to the “acc” or “on” position. The engine must be “off” to level the motor home. The transmission shift must be in the position for parking. The parking brake must be set either manually or automatically. If the “not in park/brake” light on the HWH console is “on,” check or re-check the shift and brake position.
2. Press the “hyd” button on the HWH console. The “hydraulic operation” indicator light will turn “on” with a steady glow.
3. Press the “hyd” button a second time; the “hydraulic operation” indicator light will flash “on” and “off,” the motor home will automatically level itself, then the system will turn itself “off.”

To store the hydraulic jacks prior to moving the motor home, perform the following steps:

1. Turn the ignition switch “on”; then store the hydraulic jacks immediately.
2. Press the “hyd” button once; the “hydraulic operation” indicator light will turn “on” with a steady glow.
3. Press the “dump” button.
4. Press the “store” button; the “store” indicator light will flash while the jacks are being retracted.
5. When the “travel” light turns “on,” the jacks are fully retracted and the motor home may be moved. The HWH Leveling Control system will turn itself “off.”

For manual operation of the hydraulic jacks, perform the following steps:

Manual Leveling:

1. Turn the ignition switch to the “acc” or “on” position. The engine must be “off” to level the coach. The transmission shift must be in position for parking. The park brake must be set either manually or automatically. If the “not in park/brake” light is “on,” check or recheck the shift and



Figure 9-5. HWH Leveling System Control Panel



Figure 9-6. HWH Leveling Control Panel

EXTERIOR FEATURES

brake position.

2. Press the “hyd” button. The “hydraulic operation” indicator light will turn “on” with a steady glow.
3. On the right-hand portion of the HWH Leveling Control touch panel, note the outline of the motor home and the various “raise” (i.e., “up” arrow) and “lower” (i.e., “down” arrow) touch buttons.
4. Press the respective “raise” (“up” arrow) button to raise the respective side or end of the motor home. A yellow light to the front, side, or rear of the motor-home outline indicates that that side or end is low. The “lower” (“down” arrow) buttons will lower the motor home.

NOTE: The hydraulic jacks will always work in pairs: Front, right side, left side, or rear.

Important

The leveling system should be cycled once a month or whenever the motor home is used to keep the leveling system in good operating condition.

Electric Steps

The Allegro Bus is equipped with electric, double-entrance, door steps. As such, the switch to operate these steps is located in the passenger console box. When the power switch for the steps is in the “on” position, simply open the door and the steps will automatically extend. Detailed operation for the electrical, double-entrance, door steps is as follows:

1. Turn the step power switch “on.”
2. Close the door. The step should retract and lock into the UP position.
3. Open the door. The step should extend and lock into the DOWN position.
4. Turn the step power switch “off.” The step should remain in an extended position when the door is closed. Turning “off” the power with the step retracted will hold the step in a retracted position, as well.



Figure 9-7. Entrance Step Switch

EXTERIOR FEATURES

5. With the step extended, turn the step power switch “off” and close the entrance door. Turn the vehicle ignition switch “on.” The ignition override system will go into effect and the step will automatically retract.

Caution

If the motor home is driven with the step in the extended position, there is the possibility of causing major damage to both the step and the motor home.

6. With the step switch in the “on” position, turn the vehicle ignition switch “off” and open the door. The step will extend and lock in the DOWN position.

Caution

If the door is opened and closed without allowing the step to extend fully and lock in the “DOWN” position, the step will retract and lock in the “UP” position. When the door is re-opened, the step will not extend. The power switch must be turned “on” for the step to extend.

7. This feature is only operative the first time the door is opened after the vehicle ignition switch is turned “off.” When the ignition switch is “on,” the step will always activate with the door movement, regardless of the position of the step power switch.

Caution

Always be sure to “look before you leap”! When opening the entrance door from the inside, be sure that the step has fully deployed before trying to step outside to avoid falling and possible injury.



Figure 9-8.
Entrance Step
Switch

When the electric steps are fully retracted and the motor home is being made ready for travel, be sure to deploy the cover over the stairwell (use either the switch on the driver’s console or the switch on the passenger’s side) to protect any occupants of the cabin from any accidental stepping into the open stair well. Activating either switch will cause the stairwell cover to be pneumatically deployed from a recess beneath the floor in front



Figure 9-9. Stairwell

of the passenger's seat. This precaution will provide a safe traveling environment for anyone using the passenger's seat during travel.

Mirrors

This motor home is equipped with convex, remote-controlled, exterior, rear-view mirrors. Always adjust the mirrors for maximum rear visibility prior to driving. If another driver is to drive, be sure the mirrors are readjusted to accommodate the second driver.



Figure 9-10. Rear-View Mirror

These standard chrome mirrors are adjusted by using the multi-directional switch located on the dashboard. Select the mirror to be adjusted by pointing the arrow in the direction of that mirror. Move the control in the direction of movement desired to obtain the best view for that mirror.

The adjustment control moves the top half of both mirrors. The bottom half of each mirror is convex and is adjusted manually.

These mirrors also contain heating elements to defog or de-ice the mirror glass during cold weather operation. The "on/off" switch for this feature is located by the adjustment control. Further adjustment of the mirror may be necessary at the swivel portion of the mirror arm.

Important

Objects viewed in convex mirrors appear smaller and farther away than they actually are.

Acrylic Shield (Optional)



Figure 9-11. Acrylic Shield

If installed, an optional acrylic shield may be installed on the lower half of the front of the motor home. This shield is designed to protect the front of the motor home from scratches, abrasions, and pitting possibly to be experienced during travel.

When it becomes necessary to clean this shield, the shield should be washed only with a mild soap and water to keep it clean.

Use of any abrasive or bristled brush will scratch this surface and leave permanent marks. Use only a soft cloth to polish the surfaces.

Interior Features

Bedsread

As a furnished part of the bedroom suite, a bedsread and matching pillow accessories are included with the Allegro Bus motor home.

For the bedsread and pillow shams, cleaning instructions are “for dry-cleaning only,” as the bedsread was made with materials treated for stain resistance; dry-cleaning will prolong the life of these materials.



Figure 10-1. Bedroom Decor

Flooring

The living room and bedroom floor areas are carpeted with filament-nylon carpeting treated with Scotch-guard, a stain-resistant coating. In the Owner’s Information Package, there is additional literature from the manufacturer concerning the specifics of caring for the carpeting which, if followed, will prolong the appearance and life of the carpeting. Please become familiar with the recommended care and cleaning of the carpeting to assure its prolonged life.



Figure 10-2. Ceramic Tile Flooring

Ceramic tile flooring is standard in the kitchen and bathroom areas of the motor home. For routine cleaning, sweeping or vacuuming the floor would be sufficient. If more thorough cleaning is warranted, the flooring can be cleaned with a damp mop and water. For more stubborn stains, a mixture of soap-free household cleaner (e.g., vinegar, ammonia, or comparable products) and water can be used to advantage. One should not unduly saturate the floor surfaces with water, as this could damage the flooring substrate. Feel free to use any abrasives (cleansers, scouring pads; and the like) as they cannot scratch or mar the flooring surfaces and won’t cause any damage to the flooring.

Ceiling

The ceiling in the Allegro Bus motor home is covered with a padded-vinyl headliner which can be easily cleaned with a damp, soft cloth and a mild detergent. Take care to clean around any vent areas to prevent any buildup of dirt, grease, or other accumulations. When cleaning around any alarms (e.g., fire alarm, CO detector, and the like), take care not to introduce any



Figure 10-3. Padded-Vinyl Ceiling

water or dirt into the sensors of those alarms.

Window Treatments

Throughout the Allegro Bus, the window treatments consist of pleated day/night window shades which have two sections. When closing the shade, the first section to become visible is the “day” section which



Figure 10-4. Window Treatments Featuring “Day” and “Night” Settings

is translucent and permits outside, ambient lighting to come into the motor home while blocking visibility. If the shade is continued to be closed, one encounters the “night” section which places a heavier, more opaque material over the window to block out even more light from the outside.

The “night” setting is generally used in the evening or when a greater degree of privacy is sought.

All of the curtains installed in the Allegro Bus are to be dry-cleaned only; no water-based cleaning agents are recommended as they may cause undue shrinking or fading of the fabric.

On some windows, mini-blinds may be installed. Instructions for the proper use and cleaning of any mini-blinds will be found in the Owner’s Information Package furnished with the Allegro Bus.

Plumbing & Bath Fixtures

FRESHWATER SYSTEM

Monitor Panel

The monitor panel permits checking the approximate levels in the fresh, gray, and black water holding tanks; the LP-gas level; and the condition of the battery. The monitor panel is generally located in an overhead cabinet above the passenger's seat. To use this monitor, simply press the desired status button to obtain a read-out of the fresh, gray, and black water tanks and the present condition of the batteries.



Figure 11-1. Monitor Panel (Water, LP Gas, Battery)

The “empty” indicator light will momentarily light when the button is pressed. If the tank is full, all of the lights will be “on.” Lights are sequentially arranged to indicate fluid levels in approximately third-tank increments. For example: if the tank selected is approximately two-thirds full, then the indicator lights “E” (for “empty”), “1/3”, and “2/3” will all be lit at the same time.

Kitchen Sink

The kitchen sink installed is a solid-surface, double-bowl, stainless-steel sink equipped with two sink covers to provide additional counter space when the sink is not in use. For the sink, cleaning care consists of washing only with mild detergents and water and using a soft cloth for subsequent drying and polishing. The faucet in the kitchen may be a single-handle faucet.



Figure 11-2. Kitchen Sink & Counter

Bath Sink, Shower & Accessories

The sink in the bathroom is a solid, continuous surface. When cleaning this surface, use care to prevent scratching or marring it. The typical bathroom accessories include a towel bar and a tissue holder. The single-handed faucet in the bathroom was chosen to match the specified decor. The bathing facilities installed may be a fiberglass shower or combination shower/tub with a glass shower door. The tub faucet with showerhead, hose, and bracket are coordinated with the sink faucet.



Figure 11-3. Bathroom Faucet



Figure 11-4. Shower

Water Pump

The water pump is self-priming and totally automatic, operating on demand whenever water is required. The water pump is used to pressurize the freshwater system when the unit is not connected to city water. The switches to this pump may be located in the bathroom, or sanitation-service compartment. To start the pump, follow these instructions:

1. Fill or partially fill the fresh water supply tank.
2. Open the kitchen and bathroom faucets.
3. Turn the water pump switch “on” and allow the water to fill the water line and the hot water heater.
4. Close each faucet after it delivers a steady stream of water (close the cold-water faucet first). Leave the hot-water faucets “on” until they also deliver a steady stream of water. This procedure will assure that the water heater is filled with water.
5. The water pump should stop running once all faucets are closed.
6. The water pump is now ready for automatic operation. The pump will run when a faucet is open and stop when a faucet is closed.
7. Never allow the pump to run for long periods of time without water being present in the supply tank, as doing so may cause physical damage or blow fuses.



Fig. 11-5.
Water
Pump
Switch



Figure 11-6. Water
Pump Switch

If water does not flow when a faucet is turned “on” while using the demand system, use the following troubleshooting chart:

SITUATION	SOLUTION
Pump running – no water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fill tank. 2. Clear the water line to the pump.
Pump doesn’t run	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check the pump switch 2. Check the 12-volt fuses 3. Check the electrical connections 4. Check the battery.

All of the water should be drained from the freshwater system when the unit is not in use for extended periods. For more detailed information regarding the water pump, one should refer to the water pump manufacturer’s brochure in your Allegro Bus Owner’s Information Package.

City Water Connection

When connecting your unit to city water, be certain to use the water hose manufactured and labeled for potable water service--this will assure that the hose selected for use will not alter the taste of the water. To connect the city water supply to the vehicle, connect one end of the hose to the city water supply; this connection will usually be to a faucet or valve similar to your garden hose valve at home.

Turn the city water supply “on” for a few seconds to clear the line. Once the hose has been flushed, turn the supply “off.” Connect the other end of the hose to the city-water connections on the motor home. Once the city water fill valve is opened, water is supplied to the freshwater system including the hot water heater, faucets, and toilet. Turn “on” the water supply and open all of the faucets to clear any trapped air within the plumbing lines within the motor home.



Figure 11-7. City Water Connection

Once any air pockets have purged from the water lines and water flows freely, close all of the faucets. The city water supply is pressurized; therefore, the water pump is not needed when the water system of the vehicle is connected to the city water system.

To disconnect from the city water supply on the motor home, close the valve and remove the hose from the city water supply. Disconnect the hose from the city water connection and store the hose in the water compartment.

Filling the Freshwater Tank

The freshwater tank is normally filled from the city water connection. The valve located in service compartment near the water connection determines whether the city water is going through the water system or into the freshwater tank. Since there is not an automatic shut-off when filling the freshwater tank, check the level from the monitor panel while filling the freshwater tank on the motor home.

The excess water will be vented from an overflow in vent pipe onto the ground when the capacity of that tank has been reached. This pipe is installed in the freshwater tank to prevent possible tank rupture from inadvertent overfilling.

All of the water should be drained from the freshwater system when the motor home is not in use for an extended period of time.

Sanitizing

To assure complete disinfecting of the freshwater system, it is recommended that the following procedure be performed on a new system, on one that has not been used for a length of time, or one that may have become contaminated. This procedure is also recommended before long periods of storage, such as during the winter months:

1. Drain the freshwater tank by opening the drain valves. There is one valve for each water tank. All of the faucets should be in the closed or “off” position.
2. Prepare a chlorine solution using one gallon of water and one-half cup of chlorine bleach (5% sodium-hypochlorite solution). Prepare enough of the chlorine solution to administer one gallon of solution for every 15 gallons of tank capacity. For sanitizing this unit, prepare 4½ gallons of the chlorine solution. This mixture puts a 50 ppm (parts per million) residual chlorine concentration in the water system that will act as a quick-kill dosage for harmful bacteria, viruses, and slime-forming organisms. Concentrations greater than 50 ppm may damage the water lines and/or the tank.
3. Once the freshwater tank is empty, close the drain valves in the water tank.
4. Pump the chlorine solution into the tank by first placing the winterizing hose into the chlorine solution. Close the valve from the fresh water tank to the pump and open the valve from the solution to the pump. Turn the tank fill valve from “city water” to “tank fill.” Turn “on” the water pump until all of the solution is pumped into the freshwater tank.
5. Turn “off” the water pump. Then close the valve to the solution. Open the valve from the tank to the water pump. Fill the water tank with the city water tank fill (or by using the same method as was used to put the sanitizing solution into the tank).
6. Remove the water filter (located in the sanitation compartment outside the motor home) and install the bypass pipe to allow the sanitizing solution access to the faucet. Open each faucet, in turn, including the kitchen faucet, bath faucet, inside and outside showers, turning “on” both the hot and cold faucets and flushing the toilet until all of the air has been purged from the pipes and the water runs freely. The entire system will then be filled with the sanitizing solution.
7. Allow the 50 ppm disinfecting solution to stand in the system at least four hours.
8. Drain the system and flush it with freshwater. The water system needs to be flushed with water repeatedly, if necessary, until there is no chlorine taste or smell left in the system. To remove any excessive chlorine taste or odor that might remain, prepare a

solution of one quart of vinegar to five gallons of water. “Rock” the tank containing the solution by moving the motor home forward and backward several times to clean the tank; then drain that tank and refill with clean water.

Water Filter

This unit is equipped with a water filter which must be removed before disinfecting the freshwater system. First remove the water filter and then install the by-pass pipe to allow the sanitizing solution access to the drink dispenser faucet. The water filter is located in the sanitation compartment on the outside of the motor home. The filter will remove chlorine, dirt, and other matter.



Figure 11-8.
Water Filter

The filter will also eliminate most phenol (or similar) odors and tastes while delivering sparkling, taste-free water for drinking and cooking. The filter is not guaranteed to remove the tastes and odors of iron and sulfur. To remove these impurities, one would need to chlorinate the water. Replacement filters are available that will filter iron and sulfur. Ask your dealer or RV supply center about purchasing an iron and sulfur filter, if such is desired.

If you are traveling in an area where the water has a high iron and sulfur content, then add one tablespoon of chlorine bleach to every 10 gallons of water in your tank--this will precipitate the iron or sulfur so that the filter can remove those impurities. If you are at a site where the unit is connected to a city water supply, you will not be able to chlorinate the system because the water flows straight to your faucets and not through the freshwater tank. Filters should be changed every 6-12 months depending on the quality and quantity of water that is used in your motor home.

Water Heater Bypass System

The water heater bypass valve is located in an outside compartment behind the water heater. By closing the water heater supply valve and opening the bypass valve, one can divert water away from the water heater. This process is performed when winterizing your motor home.



Figure 11-9. Water Heater Bypass

Using the bypass valve will keep antifreeze out of the water heater when winterizing the motor home. Draining the water heater during winterizing is a MUST. As shown in the accompanying picture, one should close the two outside valves and open the center valve. To prepare the motor home for reuse, open the two outside valves and close the center valve.

Freshwater Lines

Vibration and flexing encountered when the motor home is traveling can cause pipes and fittings to become loose. Check all of the plumbing connections for leaks at least on an annual basis. If the water pump runs when all faucets are turned “off,” check for a possible leak. Be sure that the drain valves are closed.

Connections at the kitchen and bathroom faucets normally seal by hand-tightening them and then making an additional half-turn with a wrench. If a fitting leak persists, disconnect it completely and visually inspect it for mineral deposits or foreign material stuck on the sealing surfaces. Clean the surfaces thoroughly and reinstall the fitting.

Take the motor home to an authorized Tiffin Motorhomes service center for additional repairs if the water system continues to leak. Follow the winterizing instructions given in Chapter 14 to reduce risk of leaks caused by cracks from freezing pipes. Left unchecked, freezing damage can be extensive and expensive.

WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

General Information

The waste drainage system was designed to provide adequate and safe storage and/or disposal of waste materials. All of the materials used in the fabrication of this system are tested by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory. The drainage system uses plastic piping and fittings connected to the sinks, toilet, and holding tanks. This plumbing permits the drainage of these fixtures to an outside termination.

The vehicle should be reasonably level for best operation of both of the wastewater systems (there are two, separate wastewater systems). The gray-water system is for wastewater from the sinks and shower. The black-water system is for sewage waste from the toilet. Each wastewater tank has its own control valve and both drain through a common sewer-drain hose.

Toilet

The toilet in your motor home is specifically designed for recreational-vehicle service. The toilet operates with water from either the fresh water tank with the water pump “on” or the city water supply. Before using the toilet, add water to the bottom of the tank. Refer to the “BLACK WATER TANK” instructions elsewhere in this chapter. The toilet flushes waste directly into the black-water holding tank. The toilet uses high-velocity water injection to produce swirl effect in the bowl.



Figure 11-10. Toilet

The greatest problem that causes stool solids to accumulate in the holding tank is lack of liquids. When using your toilet, it is wise to fill the toilet 3/4 full of water--this will help wash the solids away from directly below the toilet and to assure

complete dumping of the holding tank.

At the back of the toilet, there is a Water Saver Switch (toggle switch) which, when in the “down” position, allows the toilet to function in a residential mode (i.e., just the way your home toilet functions) and, when in the “up” position, allows the toilet to function in a user-control mode.

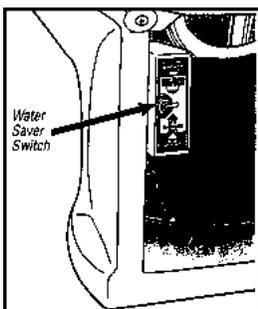


Figure 11-11. Water Saver Switch

The user-control mode is designed to conserve water and may save up to 50% or more—an especially useful function when the motor home is used without water hookups or dry camping.

Simplified instructions for the use of the toilet are as follows:

To Flush: [Residential mode] – Merely touch the larger button (see picture on the right) once and then release; the toilet will go through a complete flush cycle.

To Flush: [User-Control mode] – Touch the larger button and hold down for as long as one wishes the flush cycle to operate; then release.

To Add Water: [either mode] – Touch and hold down the smaller button.

To Clean or Maintain Tank: [either mode] – Press both buttons twice to keep the valve open.



Figure 11-12. Toilet Flush Buttons

The toilet should be cleaned regularly for maximum sanitation and operational efficiency. Clean the toilet bowl with a mild bathroom cleaner. **DO NOT USE CHLORINE OR CAUSTIC CHEMICALS, SUCH AS LAUNDRY BLEACH OR DRAIN-OPENING TYPES, AS THEY WILL DAMAGE THE SEALS IN THE TOILET AND DUMP VALVES.**

Refer to the toilet-manufacturer's owner's manual in your Allegro Bus Owner's Information Package for complete instructions and a detailed troubleshooting guide.

P-Traps

Each of the sink drains, the shower drain, and the washing-machine drain (if so equipped) has a water trap (P-trap) to prevent holding-tank odors from entering the vehicle. These traps must have water in them to trap odors. When the vehicle is in motion, the water may splash out of the sink and shower drains.

When the vehicle is stored, the water may evaporate from these traps allowing odors to enter the vehicle. If this occurs, run water from the faucet into the drain, thus allowing water to fill the traps again. A good practice would be to run a little water into these drains on a monthly basis.

Black-Water Holding Tank

The “black water” (i.e., sewage) holding tank is located directly beneath the toilet. Before using the toilet, you will need to treat the tank with water that is mixed with an odor-controlling chemical. These chemicals are readily available at any RV supply store. Be careful not to spill the chemicals on your hands, clothing, or the carpet because such may cause a permanent stain. Pull the toilet levers forward to allow the chemicals to mix with the toilet water. Continue pulling the toilet levers until a depth of at least one inch of solution is directly under the toilet. Release the levers and the waste tank is now ready for use.

Caution

Use only approved RV odor-controlling chemicals in the holding tanks. Products containing ammonia and petroleum will damage the ABS plastic holding tanks and seals.

Gray-Water Holding Tank

The gray-water holding tank is located in the underbelly of the vehicle. It is primarily used for the drainage from the kitchen and bath sinks and the shower.

Wastewater Disposal

Both of the holding tanks terminate in a valve arrangement that permits draining each tank separately or together. It is recommended to drain the black-water tank first before draining the gray-water tank. This procedure permits the water from the gray tank to wash the black-water residue from the drain lines and hose. The valves that open to release the water are called gate valves.

The blade that closed the opening in the sewer drainpipes is connected to the T-handle to release contents of the tank(s) when pulled. The sewer line must be securely capped during self-containment use to prevent leakage of waste materials onto the ground or pavement. Do not pull the holding tank gate valve “open” when the protective cap is installed on the pipe. Always drain the tank into an acceptable sewer inlet or dump station.

Whenever possible, drain both the holding tanks prior to traveling. The carrying capacity of your vehicle will be reduced if water is left in the black or gray tanks.

The holding tanks should only be drained when they are at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full. Doing this will provide a sufficient volume of water to allow the complete flushing of waste materials in the drain lines and hose. If the tanks are not $\frac{3}{4}$ full, add enough water to allow for sufficient flushing.

To empty the wastewater tanks, connect the adapter, supplied with your vehicle, to the drain hose. If the adapter is lost or broken, another one can readily be purchased from any RV supply store. Once you have placed the adapter on the drain hose, it can remain there for the life of the hose. One end of the hose threads up through the hole in the bottom of the service compartment and the other end of the hose feeds into the sewer at the dump station.

Unscrew the cap from the drain. Connect the hose, with the adapter in place, to the drain fitting. Open the gate valve completely by pulling on the T-handle. The tank will start to drain as soon as the T-handle is pulled. After you have drained the black-water tank, immediately drain the gray-water tank. This procedure helps to flush the black water from the sewage hose.

When both of the tanks are empty, flush them with a freshwater rinse before you close the valves. The gray tanks are easily flushed by pouring a couple of gallons of water into a sink drain. The drain outlet is engineered for quick release of the drain hose adapter. Always close the gate valves and secure the end cap to prevent leakage while the vehicle is in transit.

After draining the black-water tank, it is recommended to add a holding-tank deodorant to help control the odor and break down the solids. Follow the instructions given on the holding-tank deodorant package.

When using dump stations for draining the holding tanks, keep other travelers in mind. Please practice good housekeeping! Leave the dump stations in good order. Above all, **do not pollute!**

Sewer Connection and Camping

When camping at parks with sewer connections, it is important to keep the black-water, holding-tank, gate valve closed at all times, except when dumping. The gray tank can be kept open while hooked to a sewer connection, but again, the black-water tank must be kept closed. This is done so that an ample quantity of liquid remains in the tank to provide a smooth flow through the gate and drain valves when dumping.

Sufficient liquid in the tank causes a swirling action that should take any accumulated solid wastes with it. Accumulation of solid wastes in the black-water tank can be avoided by keeping the gate valve closed when connected to the sewer connection. If the valve is open, solid wastes may accumulate in the tank which may eventually result in costly repairs.

Caution

The gray tank valve must be in the "open" position when operating the optional washing machine.

No-Fuss Flush

This vehicle may be equipped with a flushing system for the black-water holding tank. When draining your sewer tank, attach a water hose to the sewer spray connection. After the tank is drained, leave the gate valve “open” and open the water valve to allow water to spray inside the black-water tank; this will clean the inside of the tank of any debris that may be left inside the tank. After this is done, disconnect the freshwater hose and close the gate valve.

Caution

Be sure the gate valve is “open” when flushing the tank. Do not use the same hose for the No Fuss Flush that is used for filling the fresh water tank.

Exterior Shower

Your Allegro Bus has an exterior shower for your use and convenience outside. That exterior shower is located in the service compartment, which is located on the driver’s side of the motor home. The exterior shower feature allows you to do such things as rinse off sand or grass, muddy shoes, or bathe yourself outside of your motor home.

The faucet operates just as it would in your kitchen or bathroom. In addition to the shower itself, there is also a soap dispenser conveniently situated in that same compartment and a light to permit use under low-light conditions.



Figure 11-13. Exterior Shower in Outside Compartment

Construction Features

Construction Notes

Your Allegro Bus manufactured by Tiffin Motorhomes is constructed of the finest materials available by well experienced craftsmen at the Tiffin Motorhomes manufacturing facilities in Red Bay, AL. Every care and concern have been taken throughout the total manufacturing process to assure you of the finest motor home available in the marketplace today. To give you a better appreciation of the features of the Allegro Bus motor home, some of its construction features are now presented.

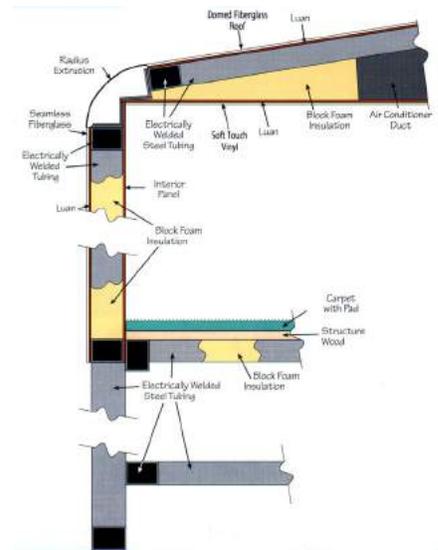
The Allegro Bus is built on a Freightliner chassis powered by a Cummins or Caterpillar diesel engine.



Figure 12-1. Freightliner Chassis

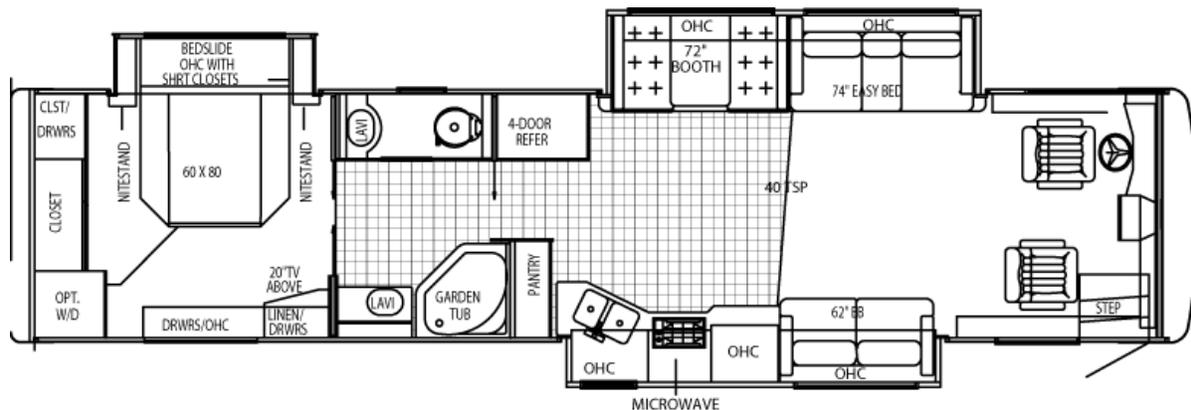
The floor decking is constructed of 1/2" OSB board to provide desired rigidity and firmness in the floor of the motor home. The floor is insulated with block foam to provide both thermal insulation and sound deadening to keep road-surface noises from unduly entering the motor home. The motor-home roof is also insulated with block foam to provide an adequate barrier to heat loss or gain through the roof.

In the Allegro Bus, each sidewall is manufactured to provide essential strength and durability and is also insulated to assure the comfort of the enclosed spaces. Sidewalls are constructed of aluminum or steel framing, insulated with 1 1/2"-thick block foam insulation. Framing and insulation are laminated between interior décor board and gelcoat fiberglass on the exterior to provide superior strength and rigidity. The insulation is chosen to both provide a sound-deadening barrier from outside noises and to provide more effective thermal control of the enclosed cabin in the motor home, thus allowing greater efficiency of the heating and air-conditioning systems, depending on the environment sought.



Typical Floor Plan

Although there are many variations of the floor plans for the Allegro Bus, a "typical" floor plan is presented to show the relative components of the Allegro Bus.



Windows, Awnings, Vents, & Doors

Windows

The windows on the Allegro Bus are of the sliding type. These double-pane windows also provide additional thermal control (i.e., insulation) to maintain interior temperatures better. In the double-pane windows, a “dead air” space (filled with a dry, inert gas) is sealed between the two panes of glass—this “dead air” space provides additional thermal insulation for the windows and prevents them from fogging internally. Additionally, there may be a reflective coating on the windows to reflect back a portion of the sunlight to reduce the heating of the motor-home interior and to reduce the effects of the sun’s “bleaching” of interior fabrics (curtains, upholstery).

For both the driver’s and passenger’s windows, additional sun shades are available to permit blockage of the sun’s rays which may interfere with driving. These shades can be deployed, as needed, and then moved out of the way when no longer desired.

In the bedroom, one particular window will be marked with an “EXIT” label—this is an emergency escape only to be used when normal exits are blocked or inaccessible. To use this emergency escape, merely lift the red handles at the bottom of the window and push outwards to open the window. Should it be necessary to use this exit, please look for a secure footing when exiting so that no personal injury is sustained in the process. It is also prudent, when parking the motor home, to be aware of where this “emergency-exit” window will be situated so that it is not inadvertently blocked or impeded from its normal, intended operation, should such become necessary.



Figure 13-1. Emergency Exit Window

Awnings

Your Allegro Bus may be equipped with a power patio awning. If so, use the following directions to operate the awning properly: NOTE: You may first have to program the key fob which can remotely activate the awning; please consult the owner’s manual for the power awning for directions on the programming process.

Extending the Awning:

1. First, examine the area where the awning is to be deployed and make sure that there are no obstructions that may impede the opening of the awning.
2. Make sure that the weather conditions warrant opening the awning; for example, the wind isn’t too blustery or no major storm fronts are soon to be expected in the immediate area.
3. One can either use the **control box** or the **key fob** to deploy the awning. For the control box, press the rocker switch



Figure 13-2. Dometic Awning Control Box

upwards to extend the awning; for the key fob, press the “extend” button on the key fob—either action will cause the awning to deploy to its fully extended position. If there is a remote switch inside the motor home, one can activate the awning from inside the motor home by pressing the rocker switch upwards to the “extend” position.

NOTE: If one wishes to protect the awning automatically from possible windy conditions which may damage the awning, set the wind sensor switch on the console to the “on” (usually upper) position. To disable this function, set the wind sensor switch to the “off” (usually down) position.



Figure 13-3. Dometic Awning Key Fob Controller

Caution

Since damage resulting from weather is not under warranty, anytime a heavy or prolonged rain or blustery winds are anticipated, it would be advisable to close the awning. Similarly, if the awning is to be left unattended for any prolonged length of time, it would be prudent to close that awning.

Retracting the Awning:

1. Make sure that nothing (e.g., nearby tree, patio torches) obstructs the intended movement of the awning.
2. One can either use the **control box** or the **key fob** to retract the awning. For the control box, press the rocker switch downwards to retract the awning; for the key fob, press the “retract” button on the key fob—either action will cause the awning to retract to its fully closed position. If there is a remote switch inside the motor home, one can retract the awning from inside the motor home by pressing that rocker switch downwards to the “retract” position.

NOTE: If one wishes to protect the awning automatically from possible windy conditions which may damage the awning, set the wind sensor switch on the console to the “on” (usually upper) position. To disable this function, set the wind sensor switch to the “off” (usually down) position.

Emergency Retracting Procedure for the Awning:

If the automatic retracting of the awning isn’t possible, one may manually close the awning using the following procedure:

WINDOWS, AWNINGS, VENTS, & DOORS

1. Slide the pull strap (provided) into the utility slot of the Fabric, Roller Tube, Torsion Assembly (FRTA) [see the Weather Pro Power Awning Diagnostic Service Manual {Dometic Corporation} for illustration].
2. While one person holds the pull strap, remove the bolt in the top of the right top casting (see picture in the awning owner's manual for details). The FRTA will retract (i.e., "roll in") once the bolt is removed. Walk the awning to its retracted position (i.e., fully closed).
3. When the awning is fully retracted, replace the bolt to prevent the awning from accidentally opening during travel. NOTE: After this procedure has been performed, have the awning serviced by a Dometic Service Center or a qualified service technician before any further attempts are made to open the awning.

Vents

The kitchen has a 12-VDC Fantastic vent fan installed to exhaust kitchen odors. For normal operation, the vent is controlled by a thermostat mounted on the vent. Once the vent power switch is in the "on" position and the thermostat is set to a particular temperature, the vent fan will operate until the temperature set-point is reached; at which time the vent fan will automatically turn "off." The vent fan should only be left in the "on" mode when the motor home is parked and in use.

If the motor home is to be unattended for long periods of time or is to be in storage, make sure that the vent fan is turned "off." Were the fan left "on," blustery winds or severe storms may prevent the vent from closing and, consequently, may permit leakage, with possible damage, into the motor home. The bathroom also contains a 12-VDC, vent fan which is controlled by an "on/off" switch mounted on the bathroom wall.

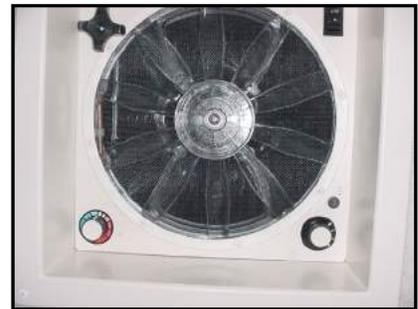


Figure 13-4. 12 VDC Vent Fan

Doors

Caution

Always secure the dead bolt lock while the motor home is in motion to prevent accidental opening of the entrance door.

The primary entrance door to the motor home is a radius door having a key lock and a dead bolt for additional security. When the door is fully opened, the door hinge automatically holds the door in an

WINDOWS, AWNINGS, VENTS, & DOORS

“open” position. To close the door from this “open” position, either the inside or outside handle must be released to permit the door to move; then the door may be closed and then locked, if desired.



Figure 13-5. Front Door

There is also a screen door associated with the entrance door; the screen door will permit increased air circulation when the entrance door is open. To enjoy this benefit, the screen door is operated independently of the entrance door.

However, when one wishes to close the screen door and the entrance door at the same time; the screen door latch must be fastened to the entrance door prior to closing the entrance door. Failure to do so will cause the screen door latch to be bent.



Figure 13-6.
Front Door &
Screen Door

Routine Maintenance

EXTERIOR CARE

Important

Damage caused by improperly performed maintenance or inadequate maintenance is not covered by your Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty.

Washing

The exterior of your new motor home is made of prefinished fiberglass. Frequent washings and thorough cleanings are required to prevent damage to the motor-home finish after exposure caused by damaging salts, calcium chloride, road tar, tree sap, insects, and other foreign material. Damage caused by exposure to these items is not covered by your warranty



Figure 14-1. Allegro Bus Exterior

agreement. Never wash the motor home in direct sunlight, while the motor home is hot, or with hot water. Any accumulation of mud and dirt under the body can cause damaging rust on steel parts. Corrosive materials, such as those used for ice and snow removal and dust control, also can accumulate on the underside of the motor home. These accumulations, especially in vehicular areas where mud and other foreign materials could collect, should be removed by flushing those areas (e.g., the underside) of the motor home regularly with water. The chance of corrosion can be minimized with frequent washings of the motor home.

When washing the motor home, make certain that the undercarriage and the wheel wells are thoroughly cleaned, as well as the exterior of the motor home. Do not use strong soaps or detergents for washing the motor home. Always use a mild soap in warm water, a commercially-prepared product for automotive finishes, or your local car wash to wash your motor home properly. Be careful when using any pressurized washer to avoid loosening any exterior decals or sealants and the like. After washing, carefully inspect the caulking around the window frames and vents and any other joints to see if any seal separations have occurred. Should any re-caulking be necessary, it is relatively simple and is considered to be routine maintenance which is the responsibility of the owner.

Important

Never use a strong solvent, such as lacquer thinner or harsh abrasives on any of the exterior painted surfaces.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Waxing

The exterior finish will require a routine waxing. When water will not bead and roll off a freshly washed motor home, a new coat of wax is needed. Wax not only improves the appearance of the motor home, but it also protects the finish against oxidation and corrosive materials. The recommended type of wax is one that is compatible with painted and gel-coated fiberglass finishes and contains an UV (ultra-violet) inhibitor. Buffing with a polishing compound will improve a dull or discolored finish.

Important

When using a polishing compound that does not contain a wax preservative, reapplying a coat of hard wax after polishing is recommended.

Seals

The seals around the doors, windows, vents, slide-out trim, and external seams should be checked at least semi-annually. Additionally, the roof seams should be inspected for cracking or peeling semiannually. If deterioration is noted during a routine-maintenance inspection, reseal the seams or seals with an approved sealant to prevent leaks. Your Tiffin Motorhomes dealer can perform the resealing inspections and subsequent work, if any, for you. It is recommended that a Tiffin Motorhomes authorized service center perform these inspections periodically and perform necessary resealing when necessary.

Proper Sealants for Application

The following sealants are recommended for specific sealing applications, as noted in the table:

Recommended Sealants for Specific Sealing Applications	
SEALANT	APPLICATION
Plas-T-Cote	Metal or fiberglass roof
Surebond #SB-140	Rubber laminated to metal roof and ALL SKYLIGHTS
Carlisle #502-LSW Self-Leveling Sealant	Rubber roof over wood base
Silicone Sealant	To cover butyl and other sealants; not to be used as the main sealant
Parbond	To seal across tops of windows and the like on exterior surfaces where silicone is not used

Striping and Decals

The striping and decals on your motor home normally require very little maintenance. Treat these as you would any painted surface on your motor home. Wash them with mild soap and warm water or any retail car soap. Never wash the motor home in direct sunlight, while the motor home is hot, or with hot water. Rinse thoroughly to prevent accumulation of any soap residues. Use caution with high-pressure wash nozzles. Keep such nozzles at least 18 inches from the



Figure 14-2. Exterior Detailing of Allegro Bus

edge of the decals during any washing operations. If this is not followed, high-pressure water nozzles may cause the decals to loosen and subsequently to peel. Test small sections of decals when using any type of cleaning solution.

Important

Do not use solvents such as acetone, MEK, toluene, and the like on the decals. Any solvent including alcohol may soften and smear colors. Do not use lacquer thinner or paint thinner on decals. Do not overcoat the decals with clear paint. Do not allow gasoline or other fuels to come into prolonged contact with the decals. However, if this should occur, immediately flush the affected area with water.

Alcoa Aluminum Wheel Care

The care and maintenance of your aluminum wheel products are simple and require no special material or products; simply follow the directions included in the Owner's Information Package for these aluminum wheels. Timely care and cleaning will maintain the appearance of these wheel products for many years.

Important

Do not use harsh detergents, acids, or abrasives which may scratch or dull the surfaces. The applicator cloth, sponge, or soft-bristled brush should be non-metallic and non-abrasive.

Important

Remember to check periodically the tightness of your wheel lug nuts.

Roof Care and Maintenance

Proper care and maintenance of your motor home, including your roof, is important for sustained, trouble-free performance. Normal maintenance is simple and easy and does not require special materials. The roof of the motor home is fiberglass and can be cared for in the conventional manner. Keep the roof clean; one should clean the roof at least every three months.

Warning

Use caution when working on the top of your motor home. The wet roof may be extremely slippery and, as such, a possible safety hazard.

Tire Pressure

Correct tire inflation pressure is essential to maximizing the life of the tires and assuring the safety of the vehicle and its occupants. Driving with tires that are not correctly inflated for the load of the motor home is dangerous and may cause premature wear, tire damage, and/or loss of control of the motor home.

An underinflated tire will build up excessive heat that may actually approach the vulcanization temperature of the rubber and lead to tread separation and/or disintegration of the tire. Additionally, underinflated tires will also cause poor handling of the motor home, rapid and/or irregular tire wear, and an increase in rolling resistance of the motor home which, in turn, produces a decrease in fuel economy of operation.

An overinflated tire will reduce the tire's "footprint" (i.e., its actual contact with the road); thus, reducing the traction, braking capacity, and handling of the motor home. A tire that is overinflated for the load that it is carrying will also contribute to a harsh ride, uneven tire wear, and the tire itself will be more susceptible to impact damage.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Maintaining correct tire pressure for each loaded wheel position on the motor home is critically important and must be a part of regular vehicle maintenance.

Tire Maximum Load Rating

Federal law requires that the maximum load rating be molded into the sidewall of the tire. If one looks at a tire sidewall, one may see some “typical” information, such as:

Max. Load Single 3640 Lbs at 85 psi cold

Max. Load Dual 3415 Lbs at 85 psi cold

The maximum load allowed for the size tire and load rating and the minimum cold air-inflation pressure needed to carry that stated maximum load are noted on the tire. Using less air pressure would reduce the load-carrying capacity of the tire. **The amount of air pressure one needs depends on the weight of the fully loaded motor home. Consequently, one cannot determine the correct air-inflation pressure, unless one knows the actual weights of the motor home.**

Weighing the Motor Home

Earlier, in Chapter 1, the procedures for weighing the motor home were presented (see pp. 1-6 and 1-7). These procedures provided the weighing of a “nonloaded” (i.e., not stocked with the possessions and provisions the user would normally have onboard for travel) motor home. Obviously, any additional weight stored onboard (inside and underneath) the motor home will contribute to the overall weight of the motor home. If not stored uniformly throughout the motor home, additional weight of the possessions and provisions of the motor-home user will load each axle and each tire differently (front-to-rear and side-to-side distribution of that additional weight). Accordingly, **it is necessary to weigh the motor home fully loaded as the user would have it for travel.** Moreover, **it is necessary to weigh each tire position individually.**

Overloading the motor home can produce problems with the tires, wheels, springs, brakes, drive train, and other motor home assemblies. In addition, an overloaded motor home uses more fuel, is more difficult to handle properly, and can lead to driver fatigue more quickly. In a worst-case condition, if any component should fail, this could result in loss of control of the motor home and subsequent damage. In certain states, the Highway Patrol routinely weighs motor homes to check for overloaded axle weights. Therefore, there are many good reasons for assuring that the motor home is properly loaded and not overloaded—this can be accomplished through a proper weighing of the fully loaded motor home.

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One can find various places that have certified public scales where one's motor home can be weighed. For example, moving and storage company lots, farm suppliers with grain elevators, gravel pits, recycling companies, and large-scale commercial-truck stops are some of the possible locations for weighing the motor home. One can also check the Yellow Pages of the telephone book for "scales - public" or "weighers" to determine other locations for weighing the motor home.

A brief overview of the procedure for weighing the motor home is shown in the accompanying figure.

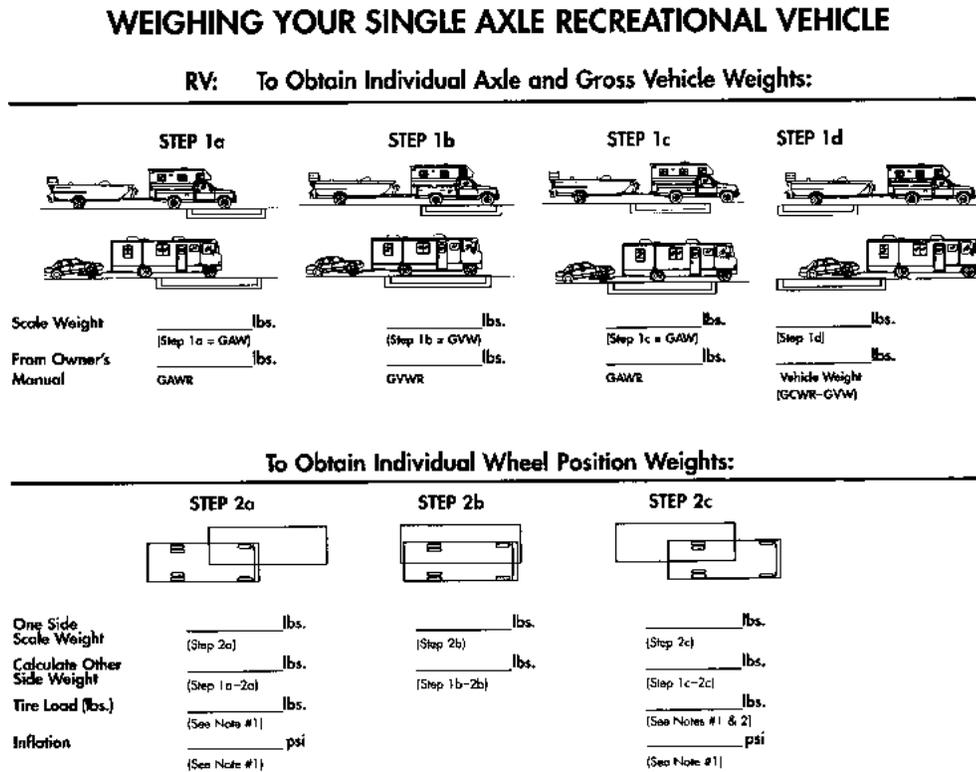


Figure 14-3. Procedure for Weighing the Motor Home (Each Tire Position Individually)

Note 1: From the tire manufacturer's load and inflation tables or the sidewall of the tires mounted on the motor home.

Note 2: If the motor home has duals, read dual capacity from the tire and multiply by 2 (two) to obtain dual-assembly load-carrying capacity.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

More detailed information can be found in the manufacturer’s literature associated with the chassis and/or the tires provided with the motor home. For example, the following table illustrates the inflation pressures for Michelin tires as a function of the loads per position for a specified speed of the motor home. In this manner, one can determine the appropriate inflation pressures for each of the tires on the motor home, as a function of the loads they are to carry on the trip(s) the motor home is to take. Whenever there is a significant change in the loading regimen of the motor home, it would be wise to recalculate the load weights of the tires to assure optimal use of the motor home.

INFLATION PRESSURES FOR MICHELIN TIRES

Size/Model	Load Rating	Inflation Pressures (PSI)												
		Loads Per Position (in lbs.) at Different Pressures												
		1 Tires=Single (S)		2 Tires=Dual (D)		3 Tires=Triple (T)		4 Tires=Quad (Q)		5 Tires=Quint (U)		6 Tires=Hex (H)		
PSI	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	
7.50R-16 XPS Rib	D (LRD)	S	1620	1770	1930	2060	2190	2310	2440					
		D	2860	3130	3390	3630	3860	4090	4320					
225/70R 19.5 Pilot XZA	F (LRF)	S	3475	2850	2835	3040	3230	3405	3640					
		D	4760	5120	5510	5940	6170	6500	6830					
225/70R 19.5 XRV	F (LRF)	S	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95			
		D	2475	2615	2755	2895	3040	3195	3315	3450	3640			
245/70R 19.5 XRV	F (LRF)	S	65	70	75	80	85	90	95					
		D	4645	4910	5180	5440	5720	6000	6280	6490	6820			
245/70R 19.5 XRV	G (LRG)	S	3340	3440	3540	3640	3740	3890	4080	4190	4335	4540		
		D	6230	6430	6630	6830	7030	7310	7520	7880	8150	8600		
235/80R 22.5 XRV	G (LRG)	S	75	80	85	90	95	100	105	110				
		D	3495	3815	4015	4290	4545	4675						

Figure 14-4. Typical Inflation Pressures for Motor Home Tires

Frequency of Checking Tire Inflation Pressures

When one has determined the “correct” tire inflation pressures for each of the motor-home tires (as a function of the “fully loaded” condition, of course) and inflated the tires under “cold” (i.e., tires haven’t been driven for more than one mile) conditions; then the air pressures in the tires should be periodically checked to make sure that they retain their proper pressures. It is recommended that tire pressures be checked at least once a month (every two weeks would be better) and before any major trip. On long trips, the tires should be checked every “drive” morning. On short trips (a day or less), the tires should be checked before one departs on the trip and again before one returns home.

Check tire pressures when they are “cold”; that is, the tires haven’t been driven at all or, at most, less than one mile before being measured. In this manner, the tire pressure has not been increased by the heating associated with both tire sidewall and tread flexure associated with traveling. If one must check tires that are warm or hot, remember that they will necessarily read higher than normal. Do not “bleed” these tires down to the “cold pressure” readings, as they will probably then be underinflated when they are actually cool. Don’t make any adjustments to tire pressures when the tires are warm or hot, if such can be avoided.

To make these tire-pressure measurements, it is recommended that one purchase a quality, truck-tire air gauge which has an angled dual head. This type of gauge allows one to check inflation pressures of both the inner dual wheel which has the valve stem pointing towards one and on the outer wheel which has the valve stem pointing away from one. Pressure-sealing valve caps should always be used to protect the valve stems and prevent air from escaping from the valve stems.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Tire Wear, Balance, and Wheel Alignment

In addition to tire inflation considerations, the tires should also be periodically examined for other types of normal “wear and tear.” If installed and maintained properly, all tires mounted on the motor home should wear in a smooth, even pattern. If the tires begin to show irregular wear patterns and the motor-home alignment is still correct, then sometimes just rotating the tires by changing wheel position and rotation of the tires will allow the tires to wear evenly. Check with the chassis manufacturer (Freightliner) and its literature (in the Owner’s Information Package) for particulars on maintaining proper wheel alignment. Tire rotation should include the spare tire in the rotation pattern and changing the direction of rotation of the tires. Tires can be rotated front-to-rear and side-to-side.

Tire Cleaning

Proper cleaning of the tires will assure maximum years of service. A soft brush and the normal mild soap should be used to clean the tires. Use care in applying any tire “dressing” product as these contain petroleum derivatives, alcohol, or silicones which may cause deterioration of the rubber, possibly leading to cracking, and accelerate the aging process. In many instances it isn’t the actual dressing itself, but the reaction of that product with the antioxidant in the tire. Heat can compound this problem also.

INTERIOR CARE

Important

The fading of upholstery, carpet, and other interior fabrics is generally caused by excessive sunlight. The drapes, blinds, or other shades should be kept closed when the vehicle is parked for an extended period of time to minimize the fading. Normal deterioration of the appearance of such items caused by wear and/or exposure to strong lighting is not covered by the Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty.

Carpet

A weekly routine of vacuuming the carpet and fabrics throughout the vehicle is recommended; the optional vacuum system has a central connection within the motor home wherein a vacuum hose can be connected and the necessary vacuuming performed, as desired. Doing such will prevent an undue accumulation of dirt which can detract from the

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

appearance of the carpeting and, thus, shorten its expected life. Remember to empty or replace vacuum bags before they become overly full—this practice will assure that sufficient vacuuming capability is readily available to handle any and all cleaning situations that may arise. In carpet areas that receive the most sunlight, keeping the curtains closed whenever possible will minimize fading. Also act quickly when anything is spilled or dropped onto the carpet to prevent or minimize staining.



Figure 14-6. Vacuum Bag



Figure 14-5.
Vacuum Hose
Coupling

Included in the Tiffin Motorhomes Owner's Information Package is the carpet manufacturer's Carpet Care Guide. The Carpet Care Guide lists detailed information on cleaning soil areas and removing stains from the carpet installed in the vehicle.

Fabrics

The fabrics used in this Tiffin motor home for the bedspread, draperies, headboard, and valances contain fire-retardant additives that may be damaged by use of improper cleaning products. Cleaning instructions for these items are DRY CLEAN ONLY. **Water-based products are not recommended for cleaning the fabrics in your new vehicle.** Most water-based, household-cleaning products are not formulated for use on these fabrics and may cause excessive shrinkage or fading. For best results, the fabrics in this vehicle should be cleaned by a professional carpet/upholstery cleaner.



Figure 14-7. Furniture Fabrics



Figure 14-8. Bedroom Fabrics

Spills, spots, or stains should be treated as soon as possible to avoid permanent damage to the fabrics. If a spill occurs, blot the fluid with a dry towel; do not rub the spill as rubbing may cause the liquid to "set" in the fabric and cause a stain. When attempting to clean a spot or stain, always start from the outside and work inward to avoid spreading the stain further. Some stains or soils are extremely difficult or impossible to be removed completely. These stains should receive immediate, professional attention. Spills, spots, stains, or soiled areas are the responsibility of the owner and

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are not covered by Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty.

Warning

When cleaning the upholstery and fabric of the motor home, do not use lacquer thinner, nail polish remover, laundry soaps, or bleach. Never use carbon tetrachloride or gasoline for cleaning purposes. These substances may cause damage to the materials being cleaned and most are highly flammable.

Walls and Ceiling

The wall and ceiling coverings should be cleaned periodically to maintain a new appearance. Use a non-abrasive cleaner with a soft cloth on the walls. Do not use solvents of any kind, as those solvents may damage the surfaces being so cleaned.

Dashboard

To keep the dash in like-new condition, follow these guidelines:

DO:

- Dust and clean the dash with a soft, damp cloth or chamois, wiping the service gently.
- Use a mild detergent and lukewarm water.
- Dry the surface, after washing and rinsing, by blotting with a damp cloth or chamois



Figure 14-9. Dashboard and Instrumentation Panel of Allegro Bus

DO NOT:

- Use harsh chemicals that may damage the dashboard.
- Use any cloth containing grit or abrasive particles or kitchen-scouring compounds to clean or dust the dashboard.

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- Subject the dashboard to hard, direct blows.
- Use boiling water, strong solvents, or other such materials to clean the dashboard as they will soften the plastic.

Woodwork & Floors

The wood cabinetry should be cared for with furniture polish to sustain the natural beauty and luster of the wood. This procedure will also keep the cabinetry looking new, prevent the wood from drying, and reduce chances of accidental staining or aging.

Use area rugs and floor mats by the entrance door to trap dirt. Use soap and water to clean the (ceramic) flooring, begin by vacuuming the floor to remove loose dust and dirt. Then, damp mop the floor with a cleaning solution consisting of any standard cleaning solution available through retail-sales outlets (e.g., Wal-Mart, Kmart, Target) or grocery stores. The mop should be damp, but not dripping. Feel free to use soap-based cleaners, scouring powders, steel wool, abrasive cleaners, wax, or polish on the ceramic floor as this floor is impervious to these cleaning agents. To remove stubborn spots like shoe polish, oil, tar, markers, scuffs, and the like; use a household solvent or nail-polish remover on those spots; then wipe those treated areas with a damp cloth.



Figure 14-10. Driver's Console Cabinetry

To remove chocolate, grease, juice, or wine; use warm water and any off-the-shelf abrasive cleaner (cleansers and the like). To remove candle wax or chewing gum, carefully scrape off when the material has hardened. For further tips, please see the manufacturer's information sheet in your Tiffin Motorhomes Owners Information Package.

Countertops

To care properly for the countertops in your new vehicle, always use a heat pad or trivet to protect the surface from hot objects that may mar or damage the countertop surface. Hot pans and heat-producing appliances (such as electric skillets), when set directly on top of the countertop, can possibly mar the beauty and finish of the product.



Figure 14-11. Kitchen Countertops

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Additionally, since heat-producing appliances can also damage countertop seams, it is essential to check with Tiffin Motorhomes to identify seam locations to avoid them during subsequent use of the motor home. Although solid surfacing is repaired easily, certain steps should be taken to protect it.

Be sure to use a cutting board, rather than cutting directly on the countertop surfaces. Although minor scratches and cuts can be repaired, a little care will assure that the countertop surfaces will keep looking new for years.

Avoid using harsh chemicals on the countertop. Wipe the countertop with a damp cloth to remove water spots. For most dirt and stains, wipe with a damp cloth and use soapy water or ammonia-based cleaners (e.g., Windex).

If a stain doesn't respond to soap and water, for a matte finish, apply an abrasive cleanser and buff it with a Scotch-Brite pad, using a circular motion. Use the same technique in the case of a cigarette burn. If the finish is a gloss finish, please contact the dealer for specific cleaning instructions.

Do not expose the surface to harsh chemicals, such as paint remover, turpentine, nail polish remover, or any stove and drain cleansers. If these chemicals should come into contact with the countertop surfaces, immediately wash off these chemicals, using appropriate safety measures to avoid injury.

In the event of subsequent staining or spotting, sand the affected surface lightly with fine sandpaper (400 grit or finer), then buff in a circular motion with a Scotch-Brite pad.

Accessories

The light fixtures, bath accessories, and faucets can be cleaned by wiping with a soft, damp cloth. Washing with warm water will remove dry water spots. Do not use cleaners that contain harsh or abrasive chemicals. Alcohol or other similar solvents should never be used.

Detectors

The CO and LP detectors are self-contained and DO NOT require any maintenance other than normal cleaning and periodic testing. The smoke detector installed in the motor home is a nine-volt, battery-operated detector. The CO detector uses three AA batteries for its operation.

The batteries in the smoke and CO detectors need to be tested periodically and replaced when necessary (usually semiannually). When cleaning the case on any of the detectors, use a damp cloth

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

or paper towel. Do not spray cleaners or wax directly into the case as this action may cause false alarms or hinder the normal operation of the detectors.

An inexpensive battery tester, available from any local electronics retailer, would be a good investment to make. This tester would allow checking of the batteries in the various alarms, any flashlights used in the motor home, and batteries in other appliances (e.g., portable radios, MP3 players, CD players, PDAs, and various electronic games) which may be in the motor home during travels.

Condensation

Important

Since surface condensation within the motor home cannot be controlled by the manufacturer, damage caused by condensation is not covered by the Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty.

Damage may occur to your vehicle if excessive condensation exists. Accumulation of condensation on surfaces within your motor home occurs when warm, moist air contacts a cool surface. It is most evident on the inside of windows, but this problem can be controlled by:

1. Slightly opening a window or roof vent to allow the moisture to escape from the motor home.
2. A small dehumidifier is also very effective in removing moisture from the air.

Condensation levels are highest during times when a person is cooking or taking a shower in the motor home, but these occasions are not the only times condensation is present. Walls and ceiling panels may become wet when the moisture accumulates on these surfaces. Tiffin Motorhomes does not recommend the use of any catalytic heaters because of resulting extensive condensation.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULES

Important

Always follow the chassis maintenance guidelines found in the chassis manufacturer's owner's manual.

All routine maintenance is the responsibility of the owner and is not covered by the Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty. Use the maintenance record found in Chapter 15 to record all performed maintenance as required.

Please note that any damage caused by improper or unperformed maintenance is not covered by the Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty. Items supplied by other manufacturers may require specific individual maintenance not listed herein. Please refer to the manufacturers' suggested maintenance guidelines in the Owners Information Package.

Important

Cosmetic adjustments and alignments must be performed within the first three months from date of original purchase for warranty consideration. Thereafter, these items are considered routine maintenance.

Monthly

- Check the water levels of the batteries.

Every Three Months

- Check LP gas lines for leaks with soap solution or leak detector.
- Clean the microwave hood exhaust fan filter and blades.
- Test smoke alarm, carbon monoxide detector, and LP gas detector.
- Check operation of windows, latches, and hinges.
- Clean the roof ducted air conditioner filter or filters.
- Clean and inspect door and window seals; reseal where necessary.
- Inspect and reseal around the tub and shower area where necessary.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

- Lubricate the exterior door hinges and latches with a graphite (silicone) lubricant.
- Check, clean, and tighten battery cables and inspect batteries for proper fluid levels.

Every Six Months

- Inspect the slide-out for proper seal. If realignment is necessary, please contact an authorized Tiffin Motorhomes Service Center.
- Inspect the exterior rubber slide-out seals and apply an UV inhibitor, such as 303 Protectant.
- Change the battery in the smoke detector.
- Rotate tires as recommended by the tire manufacturer.
- Check all gas appliances for proper operation.
- Have the LP system inspected by a qualified technician.
- Lubricate the movable parts on the entrance step.
- Change the batteries in both the smoke detector and the CO detector.

Annually

- Inspection of roof seams and joints should be performed by an authorized Motorhomes Service Center. If resealing is necessary, it is the owner's responsibility and is not covered by the Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty.
- Sanitize the fresh water system.
- Wax and buff all gel-coat surfaces on the vehicle as described previously in this chapter.

Winterizing

To store your vehicle for the winter months, it is necessary to winterize the water system to help prevent freezing of this system. To do this, follow these instructions:

1. Drain all the water from the water system including the holding tank(s), the hot water heater, and the water tank; also drain the *optional* water filter, if installed. For the holding tank(s), open the gate valve(s) to drain the tanks. (NOTE: This procedure is to be performed **only** at a wastewater pumping station to prevent dumping of contaminated water elsewhere). For the hot water heater, remove the outside cover and then remove the drain plug. When this tank is drained, replace the drain plug and then replace the cover. For the water tank, open the green-



Figure 14-12. Winterizing the Water System

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

handled valve to drain the tank; then close the green-handled valve. If an *optional* water filter is installed, remove the filter cartridge and store it in a clean environment (e.g., reseal-able plastic bag); empty any excess water from the filter housing and replace the housing.

2. Turn the by-pass valves at the water heater to the “by-pass” position to prevent filling the water heater tank with antifreeze.
3. Disconnect the inlet connection to the water pump [in the sanitary service compartment under the motor home] (see picture, above). Attach the supplied, vinyl hose (via the plastic coupling on the hose) to the inlet connection and hand-tighten that connection; do not over-tighten.
4. Place the other end of the hose into a gallon of freshwater system antifreeze (one can refer to the local Tiffin Motorhomes dealer or representative for the freshwater antifreeze formulation for your specific area). NOTE: Do not use automotive antifreeze; use only antifreeze approved for RV applications; otherwise, damage to the systems being protected may result.
5. Turn “on” the water pump to start the flow of antifreeze. Turn “on” each faucet, one at a time, and allow pure antifreeze to run through that piping. Let about one cup drop into the drains to protect the traps.
6. When all the antifreeze is withdrawn from the bottle, disconnect the clear vinyl hose from the water-pump inlet connection and reconnect the inlet line to the water pump. (This may require more than one gallon of antifreeze).
7. When the winterizing process is completed, turn the water pump “off” and then reconnect the water line. Store the vinyl hose for future use.
8. Open the water supply valve that controls flow from the pump to the tank to help prevent freezing on that water line.

Note: Remember, the motor home also has an exterior shower; therefore, this system must be winterized, as well.

If the motor home is equipped an optional ice maker and/or an optional washer/dryer, the following additional steps should be taken:

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Washer/Dryer (optional)

1. With the washer/dryer power in the “off” position, put ½ quart of R.V.-type antifreeze in the drum; then close the door.
2. Turn the Program Selector knob to “spin.” Then turn the power “on” and let the machine go through the spin cycle for one or two minutes.
3. Turn the power “off” and then unplug the washer/dryer or disconnect the power cord.
4. Shut off both water faucets and then disconnect the water-inlet hoses from the faucets and drain them. This completes the process.

Alternative Washer/Dryer Winterization through the Freshwater System

1. If one is currently pumping antifreeze through the freshwater system, follow these steps to winterize the washer/dryer:
2. With the washer/dryer power “off,” turn the Wash Temperature knob to “Warm.”
3. Turn the Program Selector knob to “Regular Wash” (located in the “Cotton Heavy Duty” section of the knob). Then turn the power “on.”
4. When you see antifreeze in the drum, turn the power “off.” Then advance the Program Selector knob to “Spin.”
5. Turn the power “on” and allow the drum to spin for about 30 seconds.
6. Turn the power “off.” This completes the process.

Depending on whether your particular motor home has a Dometic refrigerator with an optional ice maker or not, there are some steps to be taken in winterizing the optional ice maker associated with that refrigerator. For the optional ice maker, the proper steps to be taken are these:

Dometic Refrigerator Ice Maker (optional)

1. Shut off the water supply to the ice maker.
2. Place a shallow pan under the water solenoid valve.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

3. Remove the inlet fitting to the ice-maker water solenoid valve. Then drain the water from the supply line.
4. Remove the plastic nut and water line from the outlet side of the water solenoid valve. Then drain the water from that line. **Note:** Do not lose the metal insert from the plastic water line. One recommended way to secure this insert is to place it into a “zip lock” bag, seal the bag, punch a small hole through the top of the bag above the zip-lock, insert any type of “twist-tie” (i.e., paper-coated, flexible metal wire) through the hole, and then secure that bag to the outlet line for safekeeping.
5. Connect a source of compressed air (up to 20 psig, maximum) onto the inlet fitting of the water solenoid valve. Apply AC power to the solenoid valve for forcing the ice-maker mold assembly through several harvest cycles.
6. Remove the plastic cover from the mold assembly. The bail arm must be in the “down” (or “on”) position.
7. Start the harvest cycle with a flat-blade screwdriver inserted into the center of the small gear.
8. Turn the gear counterclockwise (CCW), when the hold switch closes, the mold assembly will continue to operate through the harvest cycle. During the water-fill sequence of the harvest cycle, the compressed air will blow out the water trapped in the solenoid valve.
9. Repeat the harvest cycle operation (i.e., steps 7 and 8) several times. Note: Damage to the solenoid valve can occur if the AC power is applied for more than 20 seconds.
10. Reconnect and tighten the lines on the water solenoid valve. The metal insert must be installed in the plastic water line going to the outlet side of the water solenoid. Leave the water supply turned “off” until temperatures are above 0° F (-18° C).
11. Dry out the ice-maker mold assembly with a soft cloth. Place the bail arm in the “up” (“off”) position.

De-Winterizing

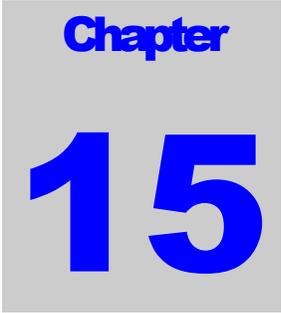
1. To de-winterize your vehicle, open both of the low-point drains to allow the antifreeze solution to drain from the water system.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

2. Next, close the low-point drains and connect your vehicle to the city water system. Put water in the freshwater tank and pump at least one gallon through the water pump to remove the antifreeze from the water pump. Keep the water heater supply valve closed and the water heater bypass valves open. The supply valve for the freshwater tank from the pump must remain closed.
3. As in winterizing, open the kitchen faucet, bath faucet, inside and outside showers, turning “on” both the hot- and the cold-water valves and flushing the stool until the antifreeze solution is flushed out of the system and the water flow is clear.
4. Once the system has been flushed, open the water heater supply valve and close the water heater bypass valve. Open the freshwater tank supply valve from the pump and the icemaker valve.
5. Reinstall the *(optional)* water filter.
6. Be sure to close the fresh water tank drain valves to allow the tank to fill.

Washer/Dryer (Optional)

1. Flush the water pipes.
2. Reconnect the water inlet hoses to the corresponding HOT and COLD faucets; then turn “on” both water faucets.
3. Plug in the washer/dryer and /or reconnect the power.
4. Run the washer through the “Express” cycle with ½ tablespoon of powder detergent (or liquid equivalent) to clean out the antifreeze. This completes the process.



Maintenance & Data Charts

RV Owner's Data Sheet

Please enter the following information in the table for your future use:

Allegro Bus: Year: _____ Model #: _____ Serial #: _____			
Appliance	Brand	Model Number	Serial Number
Refrigerator			
Washer / Dryer (<i>optional</i>)			
Water Heater			
Microwave			
Inverter			
Television, Front			
Back-Up Monitor, Rear			
AM/FM/CD Stereo			
DVD Entertainment Center			
Air Conditioner			
Generator			

Reproduction Master – Copy this sheet and use copy to maintain your maintenance records. You may wish to keep the completed sheets in a three-ring binder for your permanent record.

