



OWNER'S MANUAL **2017**  
***Phaeton***



**TIFFIN**  
MOTORHOMES

**MADE TO MOVE YOU.**

105 2nd St. NW • Red Bay, AL 35582 • 256-356-8661  
Email: [info@tiffinmotorhomes.com](mailto:info@tiffinmotorhomes.com)



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#### DISCLAIMER

Many of the features and appliances described in this manual may or may not be reflected in the actual motorhome purchased, depending on the options and models selected by the motorhome owner. All items, materials, instructions, and guidance described in this manual are as accurate as possible at the time of printing. However, due to 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 motorhome meeting the customer's requirements.

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# *Phaeton*

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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Chapter

**1**



# Phaeton

## WELCOME TO A LIFE OF “ROUGHING IT SMOOTHLY”



Tiffin Motorhomes is excited that you have entered the world of motorhome travel and we believe that you and your family will enjoy this way of life for years to come. Your Tiffin built motorhome provides all the luxuries and comforts of home while allowing you to travel freely as you choose. But before heading out on the open roads, please make yourself familiar with this owner's manual to learn more about the operations of your motorhome. Also, please work with your dealer to learn as much as possi-

ble about the functionality and features of your coach. And remember - “wherever you go, we go.”

## ABOUT THIS MANUAL

This operator/owner's manual was prepared with you in mind.

We want to provide you with the information you need to properly care for and use your vehicle and equipment. Please carefully read through this manual to help you understand how everything in your motorhome works.

**NOTE:** *This operator's manual describes many features of your Phaeton and includes instructions for its safe use. The manual, however, including its photography and illustrations, is of a general nature. Some equipment and features described in this manual may be optional or unavailable on your model.*

*The instructions included are meant to serve as a guide and in no way extend the responsibilities of Tiffin Motorhomes beyond the standard written warranty. The descriptions, illustrations, and specifications in this manual were correct at the time of printing and Tiffin Motorhomes reserves the right to change specifications or design without notice, and without incurring obligation to install the same on products previously manufactured.*

*Many of the instruction sheets and manuals for the various appliances inside your motorhome have been incorporated into this manual for your convenience.*

## GENERAL INFORMATION



MADE TO MOVE YOU.

### DELIVERY

Throughout the entire manufacturing process, your Tiffin motorhome 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 motorhome prior to you actually receiving your new Phaeton. 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 motorhome.

### DEALER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. A **pre-delivery inspection and systems check** is performed to assure a thorough inspection of the motorhome 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 motorhome, 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 motorhome 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 motorhome. Properly maintaining your motorhome 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 to return the vehicle to an authorized dealer for repairs and service.

To assist you in avoiding problems with your motorhome, it is recommended that you do the following:

## GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Read the warranty.** Go over it thoroughly with your dealer to make sure you understand all the terms and conditions of the warranty.
2. **Inspect the motorhome;** do not accept delivery until after you have gone through the motorhome with the authorized Tiffin Motorhomes dealer.
3. **Please ask questions** about anything you don't fully understand about your Phaeton. Tiffin Motorhomes is here to serve you and assure that you have all the information necessary for your safe and enjoyable use of your new motor home.
4. When you are taking delivery, **set an appointment for adjustments.** This appointment should be within two weeks after you accept delivery.
5. You are responsible for and are expected to **use your Allegro Bus in a responsible, safe manner.** Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the proper operation of the motor home and all its features before you attempt to use your motor home.

## TIFFIN MOTORHOMES LIMITED WARRANTY

The Tiffin Motorhomes limited warranty was provided to you by your authorized Tiffin Motorhomes dealer during the pre-delivery inspection. When you inquire about your Tiffin Motorhomes warranty, please refer to this document. Should you need or desire an additional copy or other information, please contact:



Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc.  
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Tiffin Motorhomes will be pleased to send you an additional copy or any other information requested, as may be warranted. Visit [www.tiffinmotorhomes.com](http://www.tiffinmotorhomes.com) for access to related materials.

## MAJOR EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

The following list is a compilation of the vendors and suppliers of the major subsystems and components of your Phaeton. 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. Where appropriate, website information is provided as well.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

• Atwood Mobile Products	(800) 646-8557	atwoodmobile.com
• LP Gas Water Heater	(815) 877-5700	atwoodmobile.com
• Denso Corporation	(248) 350-7500	globaldenso.com
• Flexsteel Industries	(319) 556-7730	flexsteel.com
• HWH Corporation	(800) 321-3494	hwhcorp.com
• Kwikkee	(541) 942-3888	kwikkee.com
• Norcold, Inc.	(800) 543-1219	norcold.com
• Onan Corporation	(612) 574-5944	onanindiana.com
• Power Gear	(800) 334-4712	powergear.com
• RV Products (Coleman A/C)	(316) 832-3400	airxccl.com
• Precision Circuits Inc.	(630-240-9832	precisioncircuitsinc.com
• Saf-T-Alert (CO/LP Alarm)	(800) 383-0269	safetalert.com
• Sharp Corporation	(800) 237-4277	sharp-usa.com
• Suburban Manufacturing Co.	(423) 775-2131	suburbanmanufacturing.com
• The Dometic Corporation	(219) 294-2017	dometic.com
• Whirlpool	(866) 698-2538	whirlpool.com
• Winegard	(800) 788-4417	winegard.com

For those looking for more information (e.g., locations of authorized subsidiaries), the following web site, [www.rvamerica.com/data/s\\_alist.htm](http://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 (basic warranty: 12 months or 12,000 miles). Tiffin Motorhomes warrants its unitized construction for 10 years and its laminations for five 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 Phaeton and its components and systems. 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. The Tiffin Motorhomes Phaeton Owner's Manual does not cover every possible detail of equipment—standard and/or optional—installed on or in your vehicle.

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 Phaeton motorhome.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### 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](http://www.tiffinmotorhomes.com) and then click on the “Locate Dealer” button, then enter in the appropriate search criteria such as state and retail sales, then click on the red ball located on the map to find dealer information in that area.

### SPECIFICATION LABELS

There are two main numbers used to identify your Phaeton. 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 serial number (Figure 1-1). This number can be found on the side of the dashboard. A typical sample of this identification label is shown below.



Figure 1-1: Tiffin serial number



Figure 1-2: RVIA Label located on the outside of the motorhome

MANUFACTURED BY:	TIFFIN MOTOR HOMES INC	DATE:	4/18/2014
GVWR	10669 KG( 23500 LB)		
GAWR FRONT	3859 KG( 8500 LB)	TIRES	26570R19.5
	COLD INFLATION PRESSURE	758 KPA( 110 PSI)	RIMS 19.5X8.25
GAWR INTERM	KG( )	TIRES	
	COLD INFLATION PRESSURE	KPA( )	PSI RIMS
GAWR REAR	6810 KG( 15000 LB)	TIRES	26570R19.5
	COLD INFLATION PRESSURE	758 KPA( 110 PSI)	RIMS 19.5X8.25
THIS VEHICLE CONFORMS TO ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS IN EFFECT ON 4/2014			
V.I.N	5VBRC93A4EA115569	TYPE:	HPV

Figure 1-3: Federal Motor Vehicle Standards label located inside the doorway of the coach.

Another label affixed to your Phaeton is the Recreational Vehicle Industrial Association (RVIA) Weight Label (Figure 1-2) 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:

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- An indication of the contents of the motorhome weight label affixed to the motorhome.
- A concise explanation of the following items: Vehicle Weight (VW) distribution and 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.

**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.

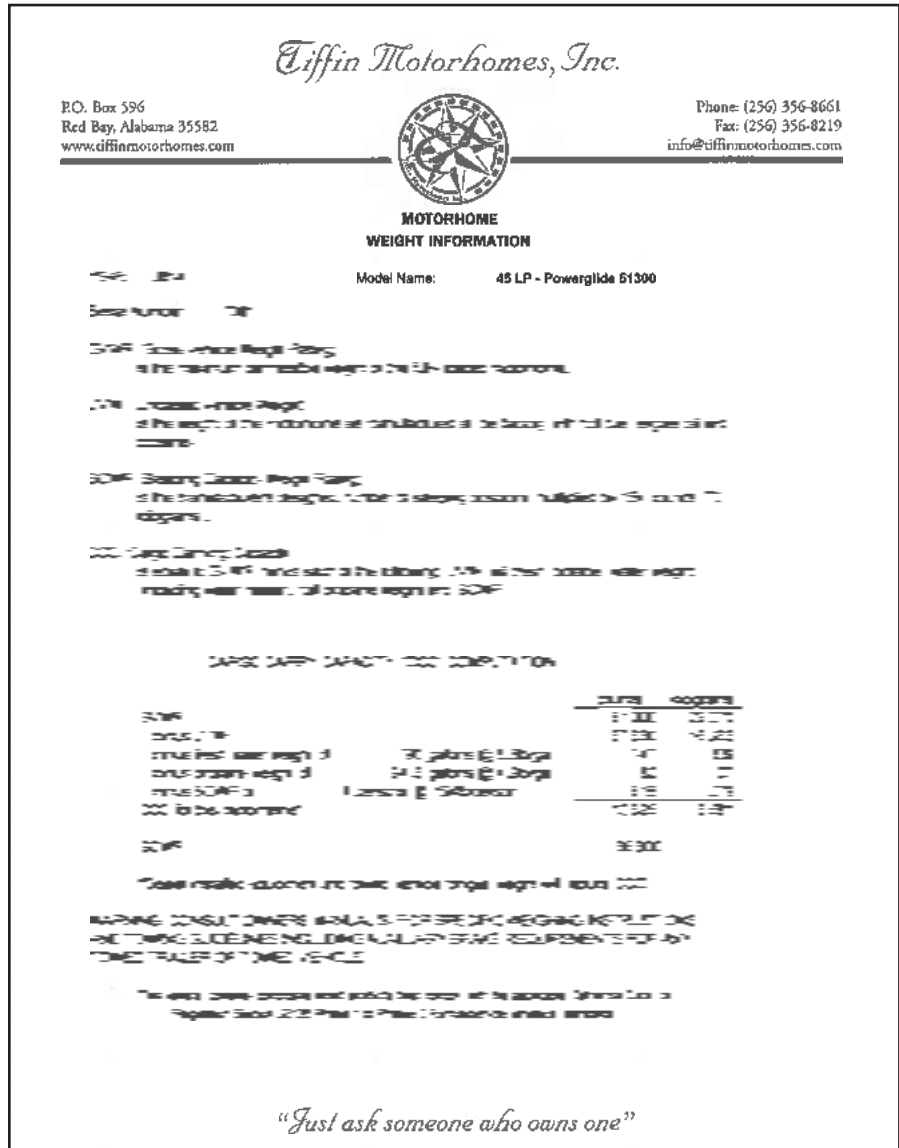


Figure 1-4: Sample Motorhome Weight Label which can be found in the bedroom closet

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Gross Axle-Weight Rating (GAWR)** – This is the maximum allowable weight for an axle; 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.

## WEIGHING PROCEDURES

To weigh the motorhome properly, the motorhome should be level when the weighing process is performed. Your Phaeton 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 certified drive-on scales or individual-wheel scales to determine that the final weight is within specified limits for the motorhome. The procedure that can be used is as follows:

First, drive the motorhome 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 motorhome 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.

## WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION

To assure the maximum stability of the motorhome under static (i.e., parked) and dynamic (i.e., moving) conditions, the distribution of the items to be carried and stored within the motorhome and in the storage bays underneath the motorhome 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 motorhome 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 motorhome essentially centered on a front-to-rear and side-to-side basis will also provide better control of the motorhome when it is in motion.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### SAFETY MESSAGES

Please note that several labels listed in this manual represent items that need your attention. The Danger, Warning, Caution, and Notice labels alert you to precautions that may help you avoid damage to your motorhome, its equipment or your personal safety. Please read and follow them carefully.

# NOTICE

NOTICE is used to address practices not related to personal injury.



# CAUTION

CAUTION indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate personal injury.



# WARNING

WARNING indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious personal injury.



# DANGER

DANGER indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious personal injury.



# ***Phaeton***

## **SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**

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Chapter

**2**

## SAFETY

### SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to using your motorhome, 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 motorhome. There are several safety considerations which you should realize and follow while your Phaeton is in motion. These safety considerations, as well as others meant to preclude any damage to the motorhome, 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.



### GENERAL WARNINGS

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

- Only seats with seat belts should be used while the motorhome is in motion; those seat belts should be worn by all people (driver, passengers) in the motorhome at that time.
- While the motorhome is moving, lock all seats in the forward-facing position to provide maximum safety for the users.
- While the motorhome is moving, no one inside should ever stand or kneel on seats (e.g., young children).
- 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 motorhome 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)/liquid propane (LP) alarm(s) should be regularly inspected and tested. If being used for the first time, the smoke and/or CO/LP alarm should be properly activated and fresh batteries installed before the motorhome is placed into service. Never sleep in a motorhome not having functional smoke and/or CO/LP alarm(s).
- While the motorhome 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.
- Movement inside the motorhome should be minimized while the motorhome is in motion.
- Never leave the driver's seat unattended while the motorhome is in motion.

## SAFETY

### YOUR PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

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 or other that you can “see” and “be seen.” Reposition any mirrors 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 motorhome when the vehicle is in motion.

√ Make a “walk-around” visual inspection of the motorhome 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 they are properly latched. If need be, check inside all exterior compartments to make sure that all cargo and equipment are properly secured so 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 motorhome has not been used, make sure that the “cold inflation” pressure is maintained. If the motorhome has 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 the wheel is not mis-mounted which would produce a “wobbly” wheel when the motorhome is in motion, then tighten the lug nuts.

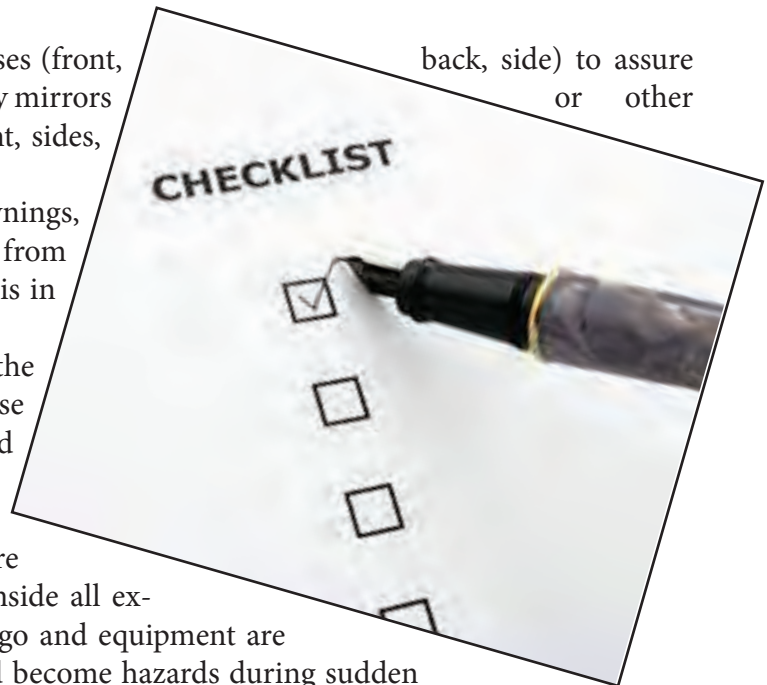
√ Check all fluid levels (e.g., engine oil, transmission fluid, coolant, power-steering fluid, brake fluid, battery fluid [if applicable], windshield-washer solvent) to assure correct levels are maintained. Fill any low reservoirs, as needed.

√ 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 motorhome engine, make sure all lines (e.g., water, sewer) and electrical power cords are disconnected and properly stowed.

√ Assure the leveling jacks are in the “travel” position.

√ After entering the motorhome, make sure that the electrically-actuated, retractable step has properly operated to retract the step fully before starting the engine of the motorhome.



## SAFETY

### DRIVING SAFETY

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

- Do not attempt to adjust the driver's seat while the vehicle is moving.
- Do not adjust the tilt steering while the vehicle is moving.
- The driver should be familiar with all gauges, instruments, switches, and indicators on the instrument panel prior to driving.



Figure 2-1: Driver's side dashboard and instrument console.

- 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 motorhome is not possible or if traffic conditions don't warrant such.
- Avoid driving the motorhome 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.
- Know the limits of operation of the motorhome. Don't try to achieve excessive speeds, climb overly steep hills, traverse overly long grades, attempt to use the motorhome as an "off-the-road" (OTR) motorhome, rapidly switch lanes, or rapidly accelerate or decelerate the motorhome. When in doubt about the handling characteristics of the motorhome, consult your chassis manual for information.
- The solar or blackout shade is operated by a switch located on the driver's console. Depress the switch to lower or raise the shade. The switch will be labeled "SOLAR SHADE or NIGHT SHADE." The time delay switch must be held a few seconds before it is activated.  
**CAUTION:** DO NOT over extend either shade as this may block the view of the road.
- **NEVER** drive the vehicle with a slideout room extended.

## SAFETY

# FUELS FOR THE MOTORHOME



Liquid propane (LP) gas containers, gasoline, or other flammable liquids are not to be placed or stored inside the motorhome because a fire or explosion may occur. LP gas containers (Figure 2-2) 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:  
LP tank



Your motorhome is designed to use diesel fuel only for the engine used in the routine operation of the motorhome—these require prudent and safe handling to assure safety of the motorhome and its occupants; namely:

- Anytime the motor fuel or the LP tank is to be filled, the motorhome engine is to be turned OFF and all pilot lights and appliances should be turned OFF.
- A NO SMOKING policy should always be observed when refilling the fuel or propane gas tank.
- 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.
  - When lighting range burners, do not turn burner controls to “On” and allow the gas to escape before lighting.
- NEVER use any other “burning” equipment (e.g., charcoal grills, wood stoves, butane lights, propane lights) inside the motorhome. Doing so may cause fires and/or asphyxiation.



# DANGER

All pilot lights, appliances, and their ignitors must be turned off before refueling of motor fuel tanks or propane containers. A failure to comply, could result in serious injury or death.



# WARNING

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

## SAFETY

### LIQUID PROPANE (LP) GAS SYSTEM

Check the propane gas system for leaks yearly or as necessary. If you smell gas within the motorhome, quickly perform the following:

#### IF YOU SMELL PROPANE

- Extinguish any open flames, pilot lights and all smoking materials.
- Do not touch electrical switches.
- Shut off the gas supply at the tank valve or gas supply connection.
- Open doors, windows and other ventilating openings.
- Leave the area until the odor clears.
- Have the propane system checked and leakage source corrected immediately.

A failure to comply could result in serious injury or death.



A WARNING label such as this is located near the LP gas container.

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 percent 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 percent 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 motorhome have been approved for use in motorhomes by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory (i.e., UL and CSA certified). When properly used, LP gas is a clean-burning fuel which can be dependably used. In actuality, the LP container contains liquid propane under high pressure.



Figure 2-3: LP tank

## **SAFETY**


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 motorhome.

LP-appliance lighting problems are typically caused by an improperly-adjusted gas regulator. NEVER attempt to adjust or reset the gas regulator yourself. 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.

You can wipe 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 you 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 motorhome 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.

## SAFETY

### LP GAS REGULATOR

The LP gas regulator (Figure 2-4) 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 motorhome.

You should regularly inspect 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.



Figure 2-4: LP Gas Regulator

### LP DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The primary LP distribution system in the motorhome is a steel manifold located underneath the motorhome. The secondary distribution lines running from this main distribution system are usually reinforced rubber supply lines.

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.



## WARNING

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



## SAFETY

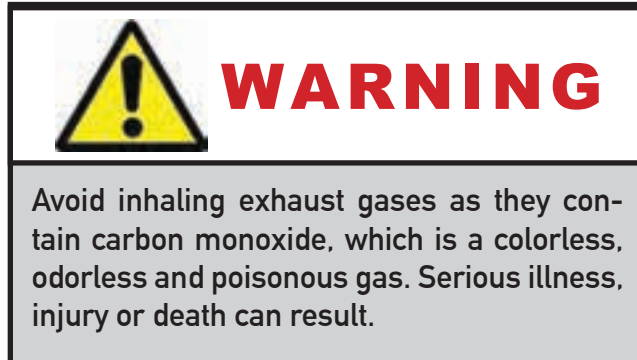
### RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

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 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 refueling 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.

### CARBON MONOXIDE WARNING



A properly maintained engine exhaust and ventilation system is the best way to protect against carbon monoxide's entry into the vehicle. We recommend that the exhaust system and body be inspected by a qualified motorhome service center:

- Each time the vehicle is serviced for an oil change.
- Whenever a change in the sound of the exhaust system is noticed.
- Whenever the exhaust system, underbody, or rear of the vehicle is damaged.

To allow proper operation of the vehicle's ventilation system, keep front ventilation inlet grill clear of obstructions at all times.

Do not occupy a parked vehicle with engine running for an extended time and do not run engine in confined areas, such as a garage.

### CO/LP GAS DETECTOR

Your motorhome is equipped with a Carbon Monoxide alarm, which has a sensor that is designed to detect carbon monoxide gas fumes resulting from incomplete combustion of fuel.

It will detect carbon monoxide gas from any combustion source such as from the furnace, oven/range, water heater, refrigerator, chassis engine and generator engine.

## SAFETY

Since LP gas is more dense than air, the LP gas will naturally settle to the lowest point in an enclosed space. In the motorhome, this would be the floor.



Figure 2-5:  
Carbon Monoxide alarm

Because of this, the CO/LP gas detector (Figure 2-5) is necessarily mounted close to the floor. To activate the CO/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.

If the alarm persists in re-arming and giving further alarms, ventilate the motorhome 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 motorhome to a qualified service technician after the ventilation process is concluded and the doors and windows again shut.

This single compact system provides a powerful combined alarm that detects both Carbon Monoxide (CO) and explosive gases Propane (LPG) and Methane (Natural Gas). This detector uses the latest microprocessor technology combined with two electronic self-cleaning sensors that operate independently of each other. The combined unit can detect both CO and explosive gases simultaneously.

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 motorhome 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.

The most susceptible people to CO poisoning are unborn babies, small children, pregnant women,

## **SAFETY**

senior citizens, and people with cardiovascular or respiratory problems.

Consequently, it is prudent to check the 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.

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



## **DANGER**

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 motorhome 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.

## **DANGER**



Never sleep in a motorhome when the engine is running—engine exhaust fumes could enter the motorhome 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.

## SAFETY

### 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 motorhome.

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 Phaeton is equipped with a fire extinguisher located in the entrance door stairwell (Figure 2-6). The extinguisher is rated for both Class B (i.e., grease, gasoline, diesel fuel, flammable liquids) and Class C (i.e., electrical) services.

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.

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. 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 motorhome, evacuate the motorhome 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.**



Figure 2-6:  
Fire extinguisher

## SAFETY

### SMOKE DETECTOR

The Phaeton is equipped with a battery-operated smoke detector (Figure 2-7) located on the ceiling in the living area of the motorhome.

The smoke detector should be tested on a weekly basis, before each trip, and after any period of storage of the motorhome.

If a low-battery condition is noted or the alarm “chirps” to indicate a low-battery condition, immediately replace the battery. It is suggested that you keep replacement batteries in the motorhome 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). Ventilate the motorhome with fresh air and the alarm will reset.



Figure 2-7: Smoke detector.

### ELECTRICAL

- Careless handling of electrical components can be fatal. Never touch or use electrical components or appliances while feet are bare, while hands are wet or while standing in water.
- Improper grounding of the vehicle can cause personal injury.
- Do not attach an extension cord to the utility power cord.
- Do not use any electrical device that has had the ground pin removed.
- Avoid overloading electrical circuits. Replace fuses or circuit breakers with those of the same size and amperage rating only. NEVER use a higher rated fuse or breaker.

### LOADING

- Store or secure all loose items inside the motorhome before traveling. Possible overlooked items such as canned goods or small appliances on the countertop, cooking pans on the range, or free-standing furniture can become dangerous projectiles during a sudden stop.
- Be aware of GVWR, GAWR, and individual load limit on each tire or set of duals.
- Never load the motorhome in excess of the gross vehicle weight rating or the gross axle weight rating for either axle.

### MAINTENANCE

- Do not remove the radiator cap while engine and radiator are still hot. Always check coolant level visually at the see-through coolant reservoir.
- NEVER get beneath a vehicle that is held up by a jack only.
- Do not mix different construction types of tires on the vehicle. Replace tires with exact size, type, and load range.

## SAFETY

### EMERGENCY EXITS

In the living areas of the motorhome, there are emergency exit windows (Figure 2-9 and 2-10). These windows are designed for emergency exits when it is not practical to exit by the door, which also is an emergency exit - in the front of the motorhome. These windows are readily noticeable by their red handles and the red “EXIT” label on the windows.



Figure 2-10: Emergency exit latch



Figure 2-9: Emergency exit window

To use these windows as emergency exits, 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 motorhome is to be parked, it would be wise to note where these windows will be so the exits won't be blocked (e.g., against a tree, pole, or wall).

### PARKING PROCEDURES

To park the motorhome in any unfamiliar terrain, examine the site for surface irregularities, slopes or inclines, and other items such as stumps, rocks, external connections for power/water/sewage and also examine the area immediately above the parking site for obstructions like tree branches and limbs, signs, overhead wiring.

If the motorhome is to be backed into the parking site, try to have that site be on the driver's left-hand side, as this will allow the driver to watch the rear of the motorhome. Back up slowly and use the side mirrors and the back-up camera as a guide or, better yet, have another person outside providing guidance to help park the motorhome.

When the motorhome is finally situated, shift the transmission into park, set the foot-operated park brake, and then turn “off” the engine. Activate the hydraulic leveling system to level and stabilize the motorhome.

If the motorhome is to be powered externally, connect the 120 VAC power to the motorhome. Turn

## SAFETY

“on” the LP gas valve at the LP tank. Connect the fresh-water supply and sanitize the water systems 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 motorhome is not level, so be sure to complete the motorhome-leveling process before activating any of the appliances.

## TOWING HITCH

The Phaeton is fully capable of towing typical motor vehicles. The motorhome is equipped with a Class 3; 10,000-pound towing hitch (Figure 2-11) and associated connector.



Figure 2-11: Towing hitch

The towing hitch features a 7-pin wiring connector. If desired, a trailer brake actuator can be added. The plug for the actuator is located to the left of the steering column underneath the dash.

The motorhome is capable of towing light loads. The total weight of the motorhome and any vehicle towed by that motorhome must not exceed the Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR). The tongue weight is not to exceed 10 percent of the towing capacity. Information related to the motorhome weight and GCWR can be found on a sticker inside the motorhome closet.

Any vehicles to be towed by the motorhome should have adequate active braking.

**Tiffin Motorhomes does not recommend using any type of hydraulic towing lift that attaches to the rear of the motorhome designed to carry motorcycles, scooters, golf carts, etc.**

# ***Phaeton***

## **HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**

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Chapter

**3**



## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

### AQUA-HOT HEATING SYSTEM (OPTIONAL)

The Phaeton may include an optional Aqua-Hot heating system (Figure 3-1) that provides a continuous, on-demand supply of domestic hot water, as well as interior zone heating when and where it is needed.

To activate the Aqua-Hot heating system, there is a switch on the wall panel located near the bedroom. By activating this switch, a supply of hot water as well as interior heat can be provided. The heating feature will be controlled by the thermostat mounted on the wall. The label marked with an electric bolt represents the electric mode, while the flame represents the gas, or in this case, the diesel mode.

NOTE: The use of the electric mode provides only a short, limited amount of hot water usage.

If interior heat and hot water are both needed at the same time, the hot water will take precedence over the interior heat, causing the interior heat to shut down and turn off until the water flow is turned off from water sources.

The surge tank (Figure 3-2), which is located in the basement, should be routinely inspected to make sure the anti-freeze fill line stays in the acceptable zone.



Figure 3-2: Aqua-Hot system

black panel of the surge tank (Figure 3-3).

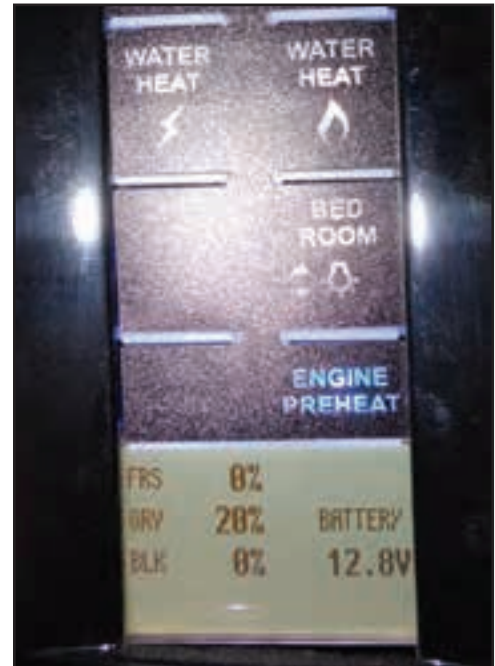


Figure 3-1: Hydraonic heating system

If the anti-freeze becomes low, you must add the recommended anti-freeze stated in the Aqua-Hot's owner's manual.

If anti-freeze is totally depleted from the surge tank, a switch will be released inside the main Aqua-Hot tank, disabling the system from operating. Anti-freeze will then have to be added to the tank to reactivate the switch and allow the system to operate.

If batteries become discharged and the Aqua-Hot system is activated, the system will automatically shut down before batteries are totally discharged. Once power is restored to the batteries, the system must be reset by depressing the reset button on the

## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

For detailed operations on using the Aqua-Hot Heating System, refer to the owner's manual in your Tiffin Owner's Information Package.

# NOTICE

Yearly maintenance is required on the burner portion of the Aqua-Hot heating system.



## CAUTION

The Aqua-Hot heating system operates off the coach's diesel tank. Keep in mind that the Aqua-Hot fuel tube is located higher in the diesel tank than the coach's engine fuel in order to prevent complete depletion of the diesel fuel tank. **BE SURE AN ADEQUATE AMOUNT OF FUEL IS IN THE TANK BEFORE DRY CAMPING.**

## CAUTION



**DO NOT** operate the diesel burner and/or the electric heating element without the water and anti-freeze solution in the Aqua-Hot's boiler tank. Failure to do so will cause **SERIOUS DAMAGE** to the heater.

## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

### FURNACE

# NOTICE

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 as soon as possible.

The Phaeton is equipped with a forced-air furnace fueled by LP gas. The furnace is controlled by the wall-mounted thermostats (Figure 3-4) located inside the motorhome (one in the front of the motorhome; the other in the master bedroom). These thermostats control both the heating and air conditioning for the motorhome.

In the gas heating mode, the furnace heats air which, in turn, is circulated through ductwork in the floor of the motorhome. If any obstruction(s) block the floor vent(s) or air-return register, then the furnace will not function properly. 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 3-4: 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 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 the thermostat to gas heat. In about a minute, the furnace should begin to operate and warm or hot air should be coming through the ductwork.

## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

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.

# NOTICE

Be cautious when washing the exterior of the motorhome. 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.

The furnace system should be periodically cleaned. Annually is recommended unless the motorhome 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.

## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

### 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. For the best cooling scenarios, park the motorhome in a shady location whenever possible and close drapes on those windows exposed to direct sunlight.

The air-conditioned, cooled air is emitted through the vents which are located in the roof throughout the entire coach along the passenger side. The return air vents run parallel, front to back, on the ceiling along the driver's side of the coach. The return vents are similar to the air conditioning vents, but they contain foam filters that keep dust from flowing back through the air conditioning system. The return filters can be easily removed and cleaned with warm water and a mild cleaning solution. To remove the filter, simply pull the vent down and lift the filter from inside the opening.



Figure 3-5: Round vent filter

Figure 3-6: Round vent filter

Figure 3-7: Round air vent

## NOTICE

The air conditioning system is the major consumption device of electrical power in the motorhome. 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 motorhome is not at fault; simply reset your breakers and/or replace your fuses. Should such conditions continue, you may wish to reduce the electrical load (in this case, turn “off” the air conditioning system for awhile) or start the electrical generator.

## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

### THERMOSTAT CONTROLS

The following is a brief overview of how best to use the thermostat (Figure 3-8). For more detailed instructions, please consult the thermostat literature in the Owner's Information Package.

1. Use the "Thermostat" switch to select the desired function (e.g., COOL, OFF, GAS HEAT, or ELEC HEAT).

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 motorhome, as the compressor is on a time-delay circuit and it must also cool the ductwork to the vents first.

2. Select the Fan Mode operation (AUTO or ON) and the Fan Speed operation (LO or HI) to select fan speed desired.

3. Press the Up and/or the Down buttons to set the desired temperature for the motorhome.



Figure 3-8: Thermostat

**NOTE:** When the fan mode is in AUTO, the fan will cut on and off when the temperature reaches the desired setting.

When the fan mode is on FAN, it will continue to run even though the compressor cycles on and off when it reaches the desired temperature.

If the motorhome temporarily loses its 110 power, the air conditioning system will resume operation at its last programmed setting once power is restored.

If 12v power is lost to the thermostat, it will automatically re-set to 72 degrees once power is restored.

**NOTE:** There is a thermostat control for each air conditioning unit, one located in the bedroom and one in the living area.

### HEAT PUMP CONTROLS

To activate the heat pump, set the thermostat to ELEC HEAT and select desired temperature.

**NOTE:** If the setting on the thermostat and the room temperature are more than five degrees apart, the Aqua-Hot heating system will automatically turn ON with the heat pump. Once the room temperature reaches the desired level specified on the thermostat setting, the furnace will cut off and the heat pump will maintain the heating of the coach.

**NOTE:** The heat pump is controlled by each individual thermostat.

If the external temperature falls to 35-38 degrees Fahrenheit, the heat pump will become inoperative and the gas furnace will begin to operate automatically.

# *Phaeton*

## **LP GAS SYSTEM**

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Chapter

**4**

## LP GAS SYSTEM

### LIQUID PROPANE (LP) TANK

The Phaeton is equipped with an ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers)-approved LP tank (Figure 4-1) which is equipped with an automatic pressure regulator. This tank contains liquid petroleum fuel under high pressure.

A LP gas-distribution system distributes the gas to those appliances using such in the motorhome. The “heart” of this LP gas distribution system is the regulator and it 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 underneath the motorhome floor. From this manifold, the various gas appliances are connected by a rubber supply line.

Should any of the secondary tubing develop a leak, do not attempt to splice any of the 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.



Figure 4-1: LP tank

**To remove, repair, or replace any gas-operated appliance, always close the main gas valve at the LP tank.**



## WARNING

When the motorhome 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 fuel, propane, butane, or other flammable liquids inside the vehicle as these represent a very real fire hazard and possible threat to life.



## LP GAS SYSTEM

# NOTICE

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.

## LP TANK FILLING PRACTICES

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

## LP GAS REGULATOR

As noted earlier, the LP gas regulator (Figure 4-2) 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.



Figure 4-2: LP Gas Regulator

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.

## LP GAS SYSTEM

# NOTICE

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 motorhome.

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.

# ***Phaeton***

## **MAJOR APPLIANCES**

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Chapter

**5**

## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

### RESIDENTIAL REFRIGERATOR

The Phaeton is equipped with a 110-volt style residential refrigerator which is powered from an outside source or from the unit's generator or inverter which uses the 12 volt battery power supply.

This unit operates as most home refrigerators do.

**NOTE:** While traveling, the refrigerator will be powered by the inverter.

For further operating and maintenance instructions, please refer to the operating booklet found in the Owner's Information Package.

**NOTE:** While traveling, the 12v battery is charged by the engine alternator.

The inverter must be "on" for the residential electric refrigerator to operate if not connected to shore power or if the generator is not being ran.



Figure 5-1:  
Residential Refrigerator

### ICE MAKER



Figure 5-2: Ice maker "Off" position

Your ice maker is equipped with an automatic shut off. As ice is made, the ice cubes will fill the storage tray raising the shutoff arm to the OFF position. Do not force the wire shut off arm up or down.

- To turn ON the ice maker, lower the wire shutoff arm.
- To turn OFF the ice maker, lift the wire shutoff arm to the OFF position (arm up) until it clicks.

**NOTE:** The ice maker must have RV antifreeze cycled through it for proper winterization.

## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

### MICROWAVE/CONVECTION RANGE

The Phaeton contains a microwave/convection oven (Figure 5-3). 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 motorhome.

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



Figure 5-3:  
Microwave

### AIR FILTRATION FAN



Figure 5-4:  
Air filtration fans

In the Phaeton, the “exhaust” or air-filtration fan (Figure 5-4) is built into the microwave and its function is to filter the air and exhaust to the outside.

The filtration fan should be used whenever any cooking is performed to filter any airborne cooking residues and heated air.

The filtration system can be used as supplemental filtration of other odors and gases including tobacco smoke, candle fumes, and related vapors. It 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.

## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

### OVEN AND COOK TOP

The Phaeton is equipped with a standard recessed three burner cook top or it may have an optional, three-burner, recessed cook top with oven.

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.



Figure 5-5: Three-burner recessed cook top/oven

It is wise to have a qualified service technician periodically check the entire LP-gas distribution system in the motorhome. Scheduling such an inspection annually would be a recommended, preventive-maintenance routine for each motorhome owner.

#### Lighting top burners with spark ignition

- A. Turn the burner knob counter-clockwise to “ON” or “LITE”
- B. Turn the Spark knob clockwise one click. If the burner fails to light, continue turning the SPARK knob clockwise until the burner lights.
- C. To extinguish the top burner flame, turn the burner knob clockwise to OFF.

#### Lighting the oven pilot

- A. Push in oven control knob and rotate counter-clockwise to PILOT ON - PUSH/HOLD.
- B. Push the knob in and hold it in while holding a lit match under the oven pilot located near the back of the oven under the broiler shelf and to the right of the oven burner
- C. Continue to hold the oven control knob in for five seconds after pilot is lit.
- D. Set the oven control knob to PILOT PUSH/HOLD to maintain the pilot flame. The oven and broiler are now ready for operation.
- E. To extinguish the pilot, push the control knob and rotate clockwise to OFF.

#### Lighting the oven burner

- A. Light the oven pilot as described under “Lighting the oven pilot”
- B. With the oven control knob set to PILOT PUSH/HOLD, push in and rotate the knob counter clockwise to the desired temperature setting or to BROIL. The oven will pre-heat in about 15 minutes.
- C. To extinguish the oven burner, rotate the knob clockwise to PILOT PUSH/HOLD. The oven pilot will remain lit.
- D. For complete shutdown, push in and rotate the knob clockwise to OFF.

## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

### INDUCTION COOK TOP (OPTIONAL)

The Phaeton may be equipped with an optional two-burner induction cook top that requires 50 amp service or the generator to operate.

The control panel features options on operating the following settings:

**HEATING** - This is the default function of the induction cook top. When pressing ON/OFF, the heating light will illuminate and the cook top will heat the cookware at 1200W. The heat can be adjusted by touching the “up” or “down” arrows. There are 10 levels of power, with 10 being the highest.



Figure 5-6: Two burner induction cook top

**TEMPERATURE** - When pressing TEMP, the induction cook top will begin setting the temperature and the TEMP light will illuminate. The default temperature is 248 degrees (120 degrees Celsius). The temperature can be adjusted by touching the “up” or “down” button.

NOTE: The temperature range is 140 degrees to 464 degrees (60 to 240 degrees Celsius).

**TIMER** - When pressing TIMER, the light of the TIMER and one of the lights on HEATING/TEMP will illuminate accordingly. The cook top will enter the Time Setting mode. Five seconds after setting, the window will automatically shift to the mode display of the corresponding function. To view the countdown time, press TIMER again. The display window will show you the remaining time.



## WARNING

DO NOT USE cooking appliances as a heating source for the motorhome. 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.  
DO NOT place stove covers on cook top until it is cooled.

## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

# DANGER



All LP gas-operated appliances in the motorhome will consume oxygen. If the motorhome 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.



## WARNING

Portable fuel burning equipment, including wood and charcoal grills and stoves, should NEVER be used inside the motorhome. The use of this equipment inside the coach can cause fire or asphyxiation and could result in serious injury or death.

# 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.



## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

### DISHWASHER (OPTIONAL)

The Phaeton may be equipped with an optional compact dishwasher (Figure 5-7). If such is installed, the following operating instructions may be used to operate that dishwasher:

1. Load the dishes.
2. Add desired detergent and rinse-aid solution.
3. Press the “power” button to turn the dishwasher “on” (pushing this button again will then also turn the dishwasher “off”). NOTE: Merely opening the dishwasher will automatically turn “on” the dishwasher for a 30-second period. To end a wash cycle before it’s fully completed, press the “power” button; at which time the dishwasher will pump any remaining water in the dishwasher out of the unit.
4. Select Wash Program. By pressing the “program” button, the desired wash cycle can be selected. The dishwasher will remember the last selection made until a newer one is selected.
5. Check to assure that the drain filter is flush with the filter plate and the spray arm can rotate within the dishwasher freely without impacting anything.
6. Start the dishwasher by closing the dishwasher door; then press the “start/pause” button to begin the washing cycle. This button also has a “delay start” function, as desired.
7. Pause the dishwashing cycle, if desired, by pressing the “start/pause” button; wait for three beeps to be heard, then one can safely open the dishwasher. Restart the dishwasher (after closing the door) by pressing the “start/pause” button. Note: Forcing open the dishwasher door in mid-cycle may cause damage and/or injury.
8. Finish the dishwashing cycle by noting when the dishwasher beeps six times to indicate the end of the wash cycle. At the end of the washing cycle, the drying fan will continue to run for a pre-determined time or until the door is opened. The drying fan assists in drying the washed contents and actually uses very little electrical energy in the process. It is normal for some water to remain in the drain filter area after the wash cycle is completed.

NOTE: Should a power failure occur when the dishwasher is operating, the dishwasher will stop. It may be impossible to open the dishwasher, depending on where it was interrupted in the dishwashing cycle. When the power is again re-applied, the dishwasher will resume its operation at the point where it was interrupted. When not in actual use, the dishwasher can be used to store dishes, cups, glasses, and the like; as the dishwasher itself provides secure storage of these items while in transit.



Figure 5-7: Dish washer

## APPLIANCES & ACCESSORIES

### WARNING



The dishwasher must have 110 power or inverter power at all times to be locked during transit. If not, the dishwasher could disengage during travel.

To ensure that the dishwasher is properly locked for travel, follow the steps below:

Push the center control, located on the face of the dishwasher, until it blinks green. Press down on the key button to the right of the center button until it turns red and compresses. This denotes the dishwasher is in “lock down” mode.

To decompress the dishwasher, simply push the key button for five (5) seconds and it will decompress.

### STACKED WASHER/DRYER (OPTIONAL)

Your Phaeton may be equipped with an optional stacked washer/dryer (Figure 5-8). The optional stacked washer/dryer can operate on 30 or 50 amp service.

*It is not recommended to operate the washer or dryer while traveling as this could damage internal components.*

For specific information regarding the use of the stacked washer/dryer, consult the owner’s manuals found in the Owner’s Information Package.

NOTE: The 1 ½” gray water valve at gray tank waste gate must be fully open when operating the washer/dryer.



Figure 5-8: Stacked washer/dryer

# *Phaeton*

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

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Chapter

6

## ENTERTAINMENT

### TELEVISION ANTENNA

You can automatically search for channels that are active in your area by editing and scanning channels on your remote control. To set up your LG television, you will need to:

- Press the power button to turn the television ON
- Press Settings
- Go to Channels, press “OK”
- Go to Auto Tuning, press “OK”
- Press “OK” on Start
- After Auto Tuning is complete, press the “EXIT” button.

**NOTE:** The booster must be on for ANT (green light will appear) and off for the cable. The booster is located in the front, right cabinet of your unit. If you do not receive the desired channels, re-direct the Antenna with Control located in the upper cabinet in front of the passenger seat and over the entrance door. After re-directing the antenna, you must rescan channels.

**NOTE:** Due to Tiffin Motorhomes’ commitment to continuous research and development, some units may also contain televisions manufactured by other companies (e.g. Panasonic, Samsung, etc.). Please refer to the information in your Owner’s Information Package on setup for these brands.

### TELEVISION SATELLITE DISH

The RV is equipped with an in-motion TV satellite dish control system (Figure 6-1) to permit access to satellite television. The satellite will be equipped with a high definition Direct TV receiver.

The motorhome’s satellite is capable of receiving High Definition (HD) satellite signal from Dish Network. However, you must subscribe to HD service and install a HD receiver. Factory installed satellite dishes must have a HD receiver in order to obtain a clear picture. Your satellite dish will not receive High Definition programming from Direct TV; however, it is capable of receiving standard definition programming from Direct TV’s Satellite 101.

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.



Figure 6-1: The dome satellite on top of the motorhome can be raised allowing easy access to change switches to a new satellite provider.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### To set up your satellite receiver for Dish Network:

1. Remove the satellite dome cover on top of the motorhome by releasing the screws around the dome.
2. Change dish settings to 4-7-8 by adjusting the dip switches to the down position (8 is already in the down position).
3. Re-install the dome.

On the Dish remote:

- Press MENU
- Press the no. 6 button
- Press the no. 1 button
- Press the no. 1 button again.

This will bring up the Dish screen. Go to the right hand column where it says “CHECK SWITCH.”

Once this is done, EXIT the system, then press 0-0-0 to download the information.

## TELEVISION SETS

Your motorhome is High Definition (HD) ready and is capable of receiving channels that are broadcasting in High Definition.

In order to receive a clear picture from your satellite dish, you must subscribe to high definition (HD) service. Your Phaeton is equipped with an automatic switching box that allows you to easily change between TV input modes.

To change the mode of your television, press “INPUT” on your remote control. Then select TV, Bluray, or Satellite, and press “OK.”



Figure 6-2: Living area television set

**NOTE:** The booster must be “on” for ANT (a green light will appear) and “off” for the cable.

Detailed operation of the television(s) is provided in the accompanying owners manuals found in the Owner’s Information Package included with the motorhome.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### INFRARED REPEATER

The Phaeton features an infrared repeater which enables the owner to utilize the satellite remote control from various areas of the coach. An infrared repeater will be located in the bedroom and by the overhead TV located in the driver's area. If your Phaeton has the optional outside entertainment system, this feature will be located on it also.

To utilize the infrared repeater, locate the one inside the cabinet that contains the DVD player. Peel the adhesive backing from the back of the infrared repeater and line the infrared repeater against the satellite receiver's infrared repeater. This will allow the infrared repeater to operate when the satellite remote control is directed toward the infrared repeater situated next to the TV.

You will now have the convenience of changing the satellite receiver channels from various areas of the coach. ***NOTE: The infrared repeater will not work with a Dish Network receiver.***

### SURROUND SYSTEM

To turn on the surround sound system in your motorhome:

1. Press input
2. Scroll up to "Speakers"
3. Turn speakers to "External Speakers," then press "EXIT"
4. Use your Bluray control, press the "POWER" button
5. Press the "Home" button
6. Got to "EXT IN," press OK
7. Go to "DIGITAL IN," press OK
8. To quit using the surround sound option, press "INPUT" on the TV remote control
9. Scroll up to "SPEAKERS" and turn them to TV Speakers, then press "EXIT"



Figure 6-3: Overhead surround sound speaker

### BLURAY/DVD PLAYER



Figure 6-4: DVD Player

The standard DVD/Bluray player is located in a cabinet on the passenger's side above the bed in the rear of the coach. The player allows accessibility to play DVDs, Bluray, iPods, and other electronic devices as well as viewing photos and playing music.

Detailed operation of the player is provided in the accompanying manuals found

in the Owner's Information Package included with the motorhome.

# ***Phaeton***

## **CABINETS & FURNITURE**

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Chapter

**7**

## CABINETS & FURNITURE

### CABINETS

Your Phaeton contains cabinetry installed throughout the entire motorhome 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 Phaeton so that an aesthetically-pleasing, as well as fully functional, storage capacity is realized.

For the many floor plans available in the Phaeton product line, cabinet design (Figure 7-1) has been optimized to provide maximal storage for each and every floor plan available. Accordingly, the Phaeton can readily accommodate the routine materials, supplies, and customer-specific items desired for any travel requirements.



Figure 7-1: Living room cabinets



Figure 7-2: Kitchen countertops and optional backsplash

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. But, when the motorhome 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



## CABINETS & FURNITURE

made about the Tiffin-supplied cabinetry which may or may not be applicable for your specific Phaeton configuration.

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 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 travel requirements of the seasoned motorhome users and from Tiffin Motorhomes' own research and development in cabinet-design requirements, the 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 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 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 (Figure 7-2) 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. 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.

## CABINETS & FURNITURE

### FURNITURE

#### KITCHEN, LIVING & DINING AREAS

On all of the various floor plans of the Phaeton, a built-in dinette booth (Figure 7-3) is standard. This dinette provides additional storage under the seat area of the booth, in addition to providing additional sleeping facilities.



Figure 7-3: Dinette

1. Remove seat back and side cushions.
2. Slide seat bottoms back.
3. Pull the lever underneath the table to release the table down.
4. Reinstall the seat back cushions and back rests to make up the mattress for the bed.

The living room contains a standard sofa (Figure 7-4) which converts into a bed. It may be one of two styles—either a standard jack knife bed or an optional air coil hide-a-bed sofa sleeper. The optional air coil hide-a-bed sofa sleeper includes an air pump. It operates by depressing the black latch and unfolding the bed. The sofa is custom coordinated with the décor of the motorhome. To convert the sofa into a bed, follow these directions:



Figure 7-4: Sofa

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.

## CABINETS & FURNITURE



The driver's seat is manually operated and has swivel features. 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. Then move the chair backwards as far as possible to gain clearance from the steering wheel. Now the chair can be swiveled without interference.

In a comparable manner, the passenger's seat is also a manually operated seat having essentially the same controls as that of the driver's seat and it is operated accordingly.

The passenger's seat also provides a comfortable footrest for your use.

Figure 7-5: Both the driver's and passenger's chairs swivel to face the living area of the coach

## BEDROOM AREA

If a décor-coordinated, quilted bedspread with accessorized pillow shams and accent pillow(s) (Figure 7-6) are included with the bedroom suit, it is recommended that the bedspread be only dry-cleaned to preserve the quality of the bedspread for the longest time possible.

Treatment of the bedspread with any of the stain-resistant sprays (e.g., Scotchgard, etc.) will also make the bedspread more resistant to the possibilities of stains and fabric damage and, thus, provide many years of dependable service.



Figure 7-6: Bedroom decor

# ***Phaeton***

## **STRUCTURAL FEATURES**

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Chapter

**8**

## **STRUCTURAL FEATURES**

### **CHASSIS FEATURES**

The chassis of your Tiffin Motorhomes Phaeton was built by and is warranted by Freightliner. The operating instructions for that chassis are included in the Chassis Owner's Manual which is provided with your Phaeton and is a part of the Owner's Information Package furnished to you by your Tiffin Motorhomes dealership.

Before you begin using your Phaeton, 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.

# *Phaeton*

## **ELECTRICAL FEATURES**

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Chapter

9

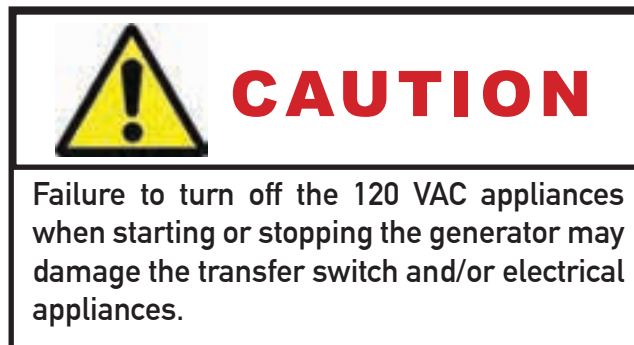
## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### GENERAL INFORMATION

There are two electrical systems in your Phaeton motorhome. 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 use the 12-VDC electrical system.

The electrical power for the 12 VDC system is supplied by the batteries of the Phaeton. Those batteries are charged by a power converter which is incorporated into the inverter. The engine alternator also charges the batteries when the engine is running.

The electrical power for the 120 VAC is supplied by the power cord when the Phaeton is connected to an external power source or when the on-board electrical generator is in operation. The converter/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.



To connect the Phaeton 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 motorhome to the external power source. Then unwind the power cord from the electrical compartment located in an external compartment. The standard, flexible, power cord supplied with the motorhome is designed to handle up to 50 amperes. Make sure that the pins in the male end of the plug are oriented correctly so they match the power cable, and 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.”

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES



# ELECTRICAL CAUTIONS

- Careless handling of electrical components can be fatal. Do not touch or use electrical components or appliances while feet are bare, while hands are wet, or while standing in water or on wet ground.
- Do not attach an extension cord to the utility power cord.
- Avoid overloading circuits and replace fuses or circuit breakers with those of the same size and amps only. DO NOT use a higher rated fuse or breaker.
- Do not plug the utility power cord into an outlet that is not grounded.
- Do not adapt a plug to connect to a receptacle that it is not designed for.
- Be sure that all electrical appliances used inside the motorhome contain three-prong plugs for proper grounding.
- Use caution when handling or working near electrical storage batteries.
- Always remove jewelry and wear protective clothing and eyewear when working on an electrical matter.



## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### MULTIPLEX SYSTEM

Your motorhome features a 12 VDC multiplex system (Figure 9-1). This system allows the ability to control circuits from multiple locations in the coach. Each switch allows you to turn a circuit on or off with individual button presses and provides an indicator light to tell you the status of the circuit (i.e. whether it is on or off).

Many of the circuits are also dimmable by simply holding the button to dim up or down.

Additional features of the multiplex system include the following:

- **Master Feature** (this is only on the control panel located at the entrance door)—this allows you to turn all lighting circuits on or off with the press of a single button that is labeled “Light Master.” Pressing the Light Master “off” switch will turn off all the interior lights within the coach. Momentarily pressing the Light Master “on” switch will turn on the same circuits that were on when Light Master “off” was pressed. Light Master “off” remembers which lights were on when the switch was pressed and will turn those same lights back on when the Light Master “on” is momentarily pressed. Holding the Light Master “on” switch will turn on all interior light circuits.
- **Switch Panel Back Lighting**—all of the switches are backlit to make the labels easy to read. If you desire to turn the panel lights off, a switch is conveniently located at the center of the coach labeled “Panel Lights” which allows you to turn the back lighting On, Off, or Dim.
- **Status LED Indicator**—a green LED beside each switch indicates whether the load is on or off. In some cases, certain switches such as Awnings, Compartment Locks, and Generator do not have a status indicator at the switch.
- **Dimming Circuits**—certain circuits within the coach are dimmable. To dim a light down, simply hold the “off” switch until the light is at the desired level and release the switch. This setting will be remembered the next time the circuit is turned on. To adjust the light up, simply hold the “on” switch until the light is at the desired level and release the switch.

In the event that you have to check fuses, the centralized control panel is located in the third passenger side bay. The fuses for the different light circuits are located here. The status of a fuse for any circuit can be easily identified by looking at the circuit number and coordinating the number to the proper listing on the fuse list chart beside the centralized control panel.

If a circuit is on and the fuse is blown, the indicator light beside that fuse will be red. If the circuit is on and the fuse is good, the indicator light beside that fuse will be green. If the circuit is off, the indicator light beside that fuse will not be on.



Figure 9-1:  
Multiplex system

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### CIRCUIT BREAKER BOXES

For the Phaeton, the 120 VAC and 12 VDC breaker boxes (Figure 9-2) vary depending on your specific floorplan, however, in most floor plans, they are located in the rear closet.

The circuit breakers and associated fuses are installed to protect the electrical system of the Phaeton from any overloads. Do not attempt to change the electrical circuitry or to add appliances yourself.

The 120V breakers protect all appliances and 120V outlets in the motorhome, such as: microwaves, air conditioners, washer and dryer, vacuum cleaners, etc.



Figure 9-2: Circuit breaker box

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 the passenger side console switch panel.

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.

### AUXILIARY START SWITCH



Figure 9-3: Auxiliary start switch

The auxiliary start switch (Figure 9-3) is located on the switch panel to the left of the steering wheel in front of the driver's-side console box.

This switch connects the Phaeton 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 start the engine by turning the ignition key, hold down the battery-boost switch for at least 60 seconds and retry starting the engine.

When attempting to use the auxiliary start switch function, it is recommended that the owner press and hold the switch for about 60 seconds before trying to start the engine. This gives the two sets of batteries (house and chassis), a chance to equalize prior to engaging the starter. The multiplex system that controls most chassis functions will need to reach optimal voltage range to insure proper operation as well.

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### BATTERY INSPECTION AND CARE



Figure 9-4: House batteries

The motorhome batteries (Figure 9-4) are located on a sliding tray which extend from an under-neath compartment.

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. If there is any forming 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).

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 Phaeton 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 (“+” sign or “red” for the positive cable; “-” 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.

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).

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

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

### NOTICE

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

### NOTICE

If the Phaeton 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.

### 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.

## BATTERY DISCONNECT PANEL



Figure 9-5: House battery disconnect panel switch

There are two battery disconnect panels; one for the house batteries and one separate panel for the engine batteries.

The house battery disconnect panel is located inside the battery storage compartment on the driver's side of the motorhome. There is a rotary switch (Figure 9-5) on the upper right-hand side of the compartment which can disconnect the house battery when the vehicle is to be stored for any appreciable time. Rotating this switch disconnects the house batteries only, not the engine batteries.

This feature is designed to prevent the house batteries from being drained during storage.

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

The engine battery disconnect panel is located in the outside battery storage compartment located on the rear of the passenger's side of the motorhome.

On the upper, right-hand side of that compartment is another rotary switch (Figure 9-6) which, when activated, disconnects the “engine” batteries. When the Phaeton is to be stored for any length of time, it is wise to disconnect these two 12 VDC systems.

When the Phaeton is removed from storage, rotate the upper, right-hand disconnect switch to restore the 12 VDC power.



Figure 9-6: Engine battery disconnect panel switch



Figure 9-7: 12 VDC disconnect switch

It is recommended that the engine batteries be disconnected while service is being performed on the coach.

For routine, short-term use, there is a “12 VDC disconnect” switch on the switch console located in the stairwell of the Phaeton. This switch—located in the bottom 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).

It is also recommended to periodically 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.

Do not let batteries freeze. Frozen batteries will void the battery warranty. Fully charged batteries will not freeze.

Your motorhome is also equipped with a battery maintainer that automatically activates when the motor home is plugged into shore power in order to maintain charge in the engine batteries.



Figure 9-8: Battery maintainer

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### 12 VOLT DC (VDC) RECEPTACLES

Your Phaeton is equipped with a 12 VDC receptacle conveniently located inside of the center console (Figure 9-9). This 12 VDC receptacle can be used for providing power to various items, such as cellular phones, personal computers, or portable communications equipment.

This receptacle is usually found on the bulkhead in front of the passenger's seat so that it is conveniently available to be used by the personnel in the cockpit area. This receptacle accommodates the "cigarette-lighter" type of connector.



Figure 9-9:  
12 VDC receptacle

### USB RECEPTACLES



The Phaeton is equipped with USB ports conveniently located on the front dashboard and in the bedroom area as well as on the passenger console. These ports allow for easy access when charging cell phones, laptop computers, iPods, iPads or other tablets.

Figure 9-10:  
USB receptacle

### CONVERTER/INVERTER

Your motorhome is equipped with a 2800 or 2000 watt Magna Sine Wave Inverter. When the 120 VAC power is not available, either from the power cord or the generator, the inverter/charger (Figure 9-11) may be used. The control panel for the inverter/charger is located above the driver's seat.

The inverter/charger has two modes of operation: INVERTER (providing power to your appliances from the batteries) and AC (running from shore power or a generator). Whenever the inverter is in AC mode, it passes power directly to your appliances as well as recharges the batteries using a 3-stage battery charger (Bulk, Absorption and Float). This approach to battery charging provides rapid and complete charging cycles without placing undue stress on the batteries. Inverter operation must be enabled on the remote panel.



Figure 9-11:  
Converter/Inverter

With search mode enabled, the inverter pulses the AC output looking for an electrical appliance (typ-

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

ically 5 to 100 watts, depending upon the setting you've selected). Whenever there is no load detected, the inverter automatically goes into search mode (sleep) to minimize energy consumption. During this time, the inverter's green LED flashes (fast) to indicate SEARCH mode. When an appliance is switched on inside the coach, the inverter recognizes the need for power and automatically starts the inverter.

Whenever AC Shore Power is no longer sensed, the inverter automatically transfers to battery power with no interruption to your appliances. The inverter's green LED flashes once every 2 seconds (medium flash) to indicate it is running on battery power and providing AC to the coach.

Whenever AC Shore Power is sensed, the inverter automatically transfers to the shore power with minimal interruption to your appliances.

Whenever the inverter is running on nominal AC shore power, it charges the batteries. The inverter's green LED stays ON (solid) to indicate the first stage of charging. During bulk charging, the charger supplies the maximum amount of constant current to the batteries. As the battery voltage rises to a set value, the charger will then switch to the next charging mode.

As the inverter continues to run on nominal AC Shore Power, and the batteries have been successfully bulk charged, the charger enters its second stage of charging. The inverter's green LED flashes once every second (fast flash) to indicate absorption charging for 1-3 hours depending upon battery bank selection. The charger then switches to its final mode.

As AC shore power continues the inverter's green LED flashes once every 8 seconds (slow flash) to indicate the third and final stage of charging. The batteries are held at the float voltage as long as AC is present at the inverter's input. Float charging reduces battery gassing, minimizes watering requirements (for flooded batteries) and ensures the batteries are maintained at optimum capacity.

The inverter monitors the AC Shore Power, the batteries and itself. Whenever a condition occurs that is outside the normal operating parameters, the inverter will take the necessary steps to protect your appliances, batteries or itself from damage. Whenever the battery voltage reaches a low level, the inverter will initiate Low Battery Cutoff (LBCO) which automatically shuts the inverter down, along with all connected loads, to protect the batteries from over-discharge damage. The inverter's LED turns OFF to indicate the fault condition.

As the inverter is charging, it constantly monitors the batteries. In the event the battery voltage approaches too high of level, it automatically turns off the battery charger to protect the batteries from damage. The inverter's LED turns OFF to indicate the fault condition.

**NOTE:** High battery voltage may be caused by excessive voltage from the alternator, solar panels, or other external charging sources.

During inverter and AC Shore Power operation, the inverter monitors the AC and DC circuits. In the event of a short-circuit or overload condition, the inverter will shut down. The inverter's LED turns OFF to indicate the fault condition. During inverter operation, if the inverter becomes overheated, it will shut down to protect itself from damage. The inverter's LED turns OFF to indicate the fault condition.

For further reading and additional information on the above, please reference your inverter/charger manual that will be found in your Owner's Information Package.

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### 120 VOLT (VAC) AC RECEPTACLES

Your Phaeton motorhome is equipped with several 120 VAC receptacles (Figure 9-5) located throughout the interior of the motorhome.

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.

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 Phaeton 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.



Figure 9-12: 120 VAC receptacle

### GROUND-FAULT-CIRCUIT-INTERRUPT RECEPTACLES

In the kitchen and bath areas, there are 120 VAC GFCI receptacles (Figure 9-13) 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 9-13: GFCI receptacle

All GFCI-protected receptacles are marked as such, but only one of them may have two pushbuttons on the receptacle (as shown in the picture). The upper pushbutton is a “test” button which can be used to



## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

assure that the GFCI function is working—all one need do to test this function is to push that upper button: To reset this GFCI breaker, push the lower button (the “reset” button) to restore power to all the GFCI receptacles on this circuit.

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-load” 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.

## ELECTRICAL GENERATOR

The 10.0 KW electrical generator is conveniently located by opening the front hood of the motorhome.

Prior to starting or stopping the generator (Figure 9-14), make sure that all the 120 VAC appliances are turned “off.”

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.



Figure 9-14:  
Electrical generator

## ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The energy management system (EMS) (Figure 9-15) distributes all the 120VAC power throughout the motorhome, whether it comes from shore power, generator, or the inverter. The EMS monitors the incoming power, and manages the power to reduce circuit breaker tripping. It does this by momentarily shedding power to the loads under its control when the user turns on other more critical appliances in the motor home. EMS restores power when the appliance is turned off. The EMS panel displays the status of incoming power and the controlled loads.



Figure 9-15:  
Energy management system

When coupled with an inverter, EMS reduces battery charge

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

rate prior to shedding any loads. Working together, an inverter assist feature is available. Normally the inverter is at rest when shore power is available. EMS utilizes the inverter and the coach battery bank to smooth out peak load demands. The inverter assist feature scales back the charge rate in order to have more 120VAC power available for the appliances.

### ELECTRICAL POWER CORD REEL

The electric power cord reel (Figure 9-16), allows you to manually extract the power cord reel as needed. To retract the power cord, hold the switch until the power cord is fully retracted.



Figure 9-16:  
Electrical power cord reel

### AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH

The automatic transfer box switches 120V AC power from shore or generator to the coach's main distribution panel. The transfer box has a delay of around three seconds before switching power to shore, and a delay of around 30 seconds before switching power to the generator.

**If the unit is plugged into shore but no power to coach** then make sure the shore outlet has power. If power is present this may indicate the unit is sensing an open neutral condition. Start the generator, if the power is restored, then either the shore plug or the outlet may be defective (the neutral line may be broken.)

**If there is no power to coach** from shore or generator then check the generator circuit breaker. If the circuit breakers are not tripped in the generator or the coach, the transfer box may need to be replaced. For more detailed information on the automatic transfer switch, please refer to the specific owner's instructions found in the owner's information package.



### CAUTION

Service to this box is to be done by a qualified technician. DO NOT attempt to remove cover unless shore cord is unplugged and generator is off.

### NOTICE

Be sure air conditioning units are off before connecting or disconnecting to or from shore power.

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### CIRCUIT BREAKERS

The 12 VDC circuit breakers (Figure 9-17) are located in an external storage compartment.

When the circuit breakers are shut down or electrically tripped, they must be manually reset. These breakers protect the slide-outs, the AC ignition, the electric step, the 30-amp ignition system, and the 12 VDC disconnect system. As needed, manually reset the circuit breaker or breakers as shown in the accompanying figure.

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.

Some of the electrical circuitry within the motor-home is protected by various fusing systems.

The electrical circuits protected by the fuse block include: headlights, panel light for dashboard, tail lights, optional jacks, turn signals, cruise control, engine computer, accessory fuses, heater and dash air conditioning. Additionally, there is another chassis fuse panel which works in conjunction with the chassis fuse panel and provides comparable protection for the above-listed circuits.

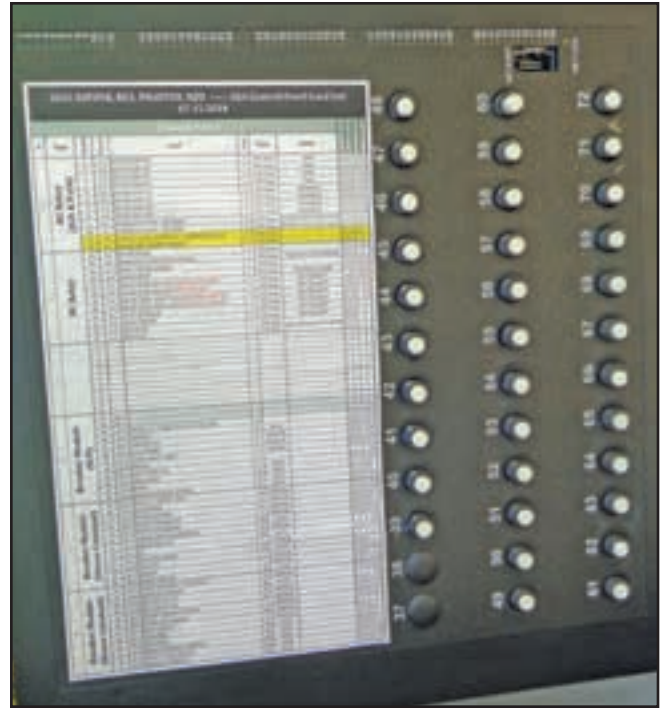


Figure 9-17:  
Circuit breakers

## ELECTRICAL FEATURES

### SEVEN-PIN TOWING CONNECTOR

Your Phaeton is equipped with a standard, 7-pin connector near the towing hitch at the rear of the motorhome to supply the necessary circuitry to control a towed vehicle.

The wiring of that connector is shown in the accompanying diagram (see Figure 9-18).

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 motorhome.

When the towed vehicle is uncoupled from the motorhome 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 motorhome 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.

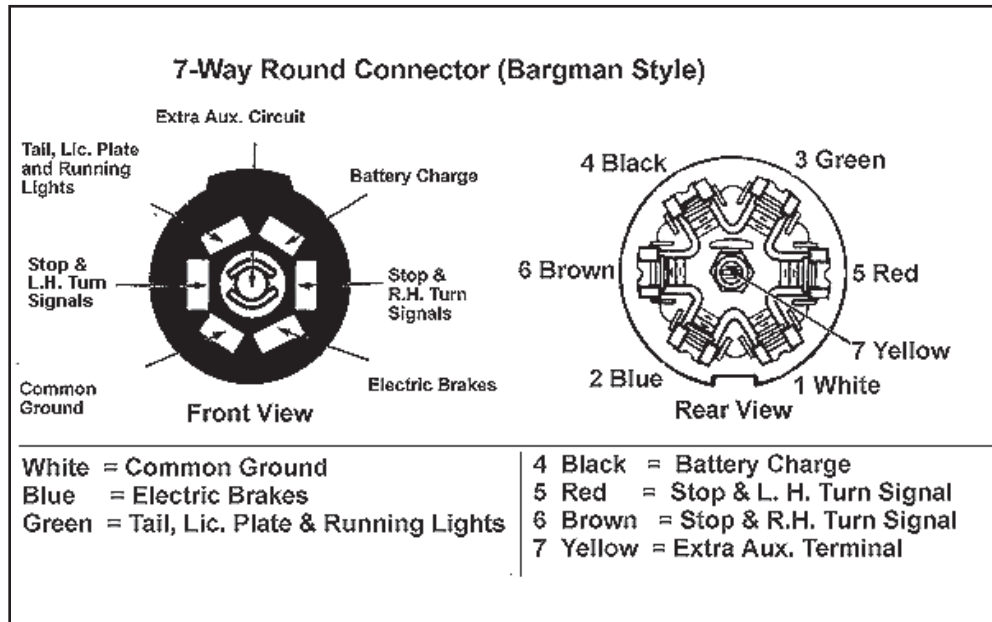


Figure 9-18:  
Seven-Pin towing connector

# ***Phaeton***

## **SLIDE-OUT FEATURES**

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Chapter

**10**

## SLIDE-OUT FEATURES

### SLIDE-OUT OVERVIEW



## CAUTION

The motorhome must be parked and the leveling jacks must be used to level the motor home PRIOR to activating the slide-out features and the ignition switch must be in the “on” position. The emergency foot brake and parking brake must be engaged. Be sure the front driver’s seat is moved forward before opening slide out.

### GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The slide-out-room feature is actuated by a wall switch (Figure 10-1). The 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.

Releasing the switch before the slide-out is fully extended or retracted will stop the slide-out.

Switches to operate the front slide-out rooms are located on the driver's and passenger's seats (Figure 10-2).



Figure 10-1:  
Slide-out switches



Figure 10-2 :  
Front Slide-out switches

## SLIDE-OUT FEATURES

### OPERATING PRECAUTIONS

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

# NOTICE

Before attempting to extend 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 and be sure the driver's and passenger's seats are moved to the forward position.

### EXTENDING THE SLIDE-OUT ROOM

1. Any loose materials or possible obstructions, such as rugs or furniture should be removed from the immediate, slide-out room area.

Make sure that the motorhome has been leveled, that the battery is fully charged and connected to the electrical system, and that the ignition switch is "on" and the engine is running before attempting to use the slide-out features.

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 and passenger's chairs are moved forward into the driving area as far as possible and locked into position.

4. Make sure the ignition switch is on the "on" position and the parking brake is engaged.

5. Push the "Extend" portion of switch and allow the slide-out room to go to its fully extended position. When fully extended, release the switch.



Figure 10-2:  
Typical slide-out fully extended

## SLIDE-OUT FEATURES

### RETRACTING THE SLIDE-OUT ROOM

1. Before attempting to move the motorhome, the slide-out room must be fully retracted.
2. Verify that the 12 VDC system is fully charged and connected to the electrical system.
3. Make sure all personal equipment and any children are away from the slide-out.
4. Make sure all cabinet doors around the slide-out areas are closed.
5. Push the “in” section of the switch; allow the slide-out room to go to its fully retracted position.
- 6.. Release the switch (this locks the room into position).

## NOTICE

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

- Make sure the ignition system is turned “on.”
- Make sure the park brake is engaged.
- 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 or converter.



# *Phaeton*

## **EXTERIOR FEATURES**

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Chapter

**11**

## EXTERIOR FEATURES

### TOWING HITCH

On the rear of the Phaeton is a Class 3, 10,000-pound towing hitch (Figure 11-1) capable of handling a tongue weight of 1,500 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. (Refer to page 66, figure 9-12)



Figure 11-1:  
Towing hitch

### EXTERIOR SIDES



Figure 11-2:  
Exterior of Phaeton

The sides (Figure 11-2) of your Phaeton 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 and/or oxidation of gel-coated surfaces.

Spacious storage compartments are located on the exterior sides of your Phaeton. 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.

## EXTERIOR FEATURES

### SECURITY LIGHTS

On the Phaeton, exterior security lights (Figure 11-3) are standard features.

A light is installed on the passenger side of the coach to help light that side of the Phaeton for added protection.

This light can serve as a “porch light” when the motorhome 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 motorhome owners and their guests.



Figure 11-3:  
Exterior security light

### ROOF & LADDER



Figure 11-4:  
Roof ladder

The Phaeton is manufactured with a fiberglass roof accessed by an optional ladder (Figure 11-4).

Proper care and routine maintenance of your roof will assure many years of trouble-free performance.

On the Phaeton, a roof ladder (rated capacity: 200 pounds, maximum) is an optional feature. The ladder is typically used to permit easy access to the roof for routine maintenance and periodic inspections.



## CAUTION

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.

## EXTERIOR FEATURES

### ELECTRIC STEPS

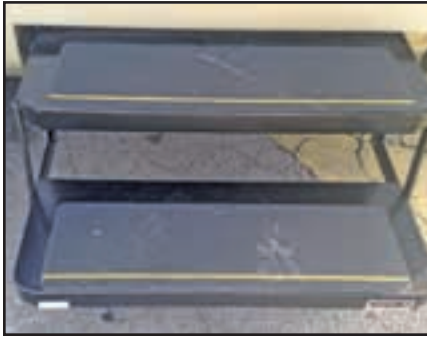


Figure 11-5:  
Electric steps

The Phaeton is equipped with electric door steps (Figure 11-5).

The switch (Figure 11-6) to operate these steps is located in the door stairwell. 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



Figure 11-6:  
Entrance step switch

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.
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.
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.
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

DO NOT travel with the step in the extended position. If the motorhome is driven with the step in the extended position, there is the possibility of causing major damage to both the step and the motorhome.

## EXTERIOR FEATURES

# NOTICE

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.



## 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.

## EXTERIOR FEATURES

### MIRRORS



Figure 11-7:  
Mirror

This motorhome is equipped with remote-controlled, exterior, rear-view mirrors (Figure 11-7).

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.

The 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.**

Detailed instructions for these manual adjustments can be found in the manufacturer's literature available in the Owner's Information Package. However, this brief overview of mirror adjustment can begin the process: The top portion of the mirror should be adjusted horizontally so that you can see your own motorhome in the one-inch surface closest to the motorhome. The remaining portion of the mirror now permits you to see the road behind you. The mirror should be adjusted vertically so that you can see the rear bumper on the bottom of the plane portion of the mirror.

The convex mirrors should be adjusted horizontally so that you can see your own motorhome in 1/3 of the mirror. These convex mirrors should then be adjusted vertically to allow you to see any other vehicles alongside your motor home.

These mirrors also contain heating elements to defog or de-ice the mirror glass during cold weather operation. The red "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.



Figure 11-8:  
Mirror adjustment controls

## NOTICE

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

# *Phaeton*

## **INTERIOR FEATURES**

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Chapter

12

## INTERIOR FEATURES

### BEDSPREAD

As a furnished part of the bedroom suite, a bedspread with matching pillow accessories (Figure 12-1) is included with the Phaeton.

For the bedspread and pillow shams, cleaning instructions are “for dry-cleaning only.” As the bedspread was made with materials treated for stain resistance; dry-cleaning will prolong the life of these materials. The curtains in the bedroom are color-coordinated with the bedspread and accessories to provide a pleasing décor for the bedroom area.



Figure 12-1:  
Bedroom decor

### FLOORING

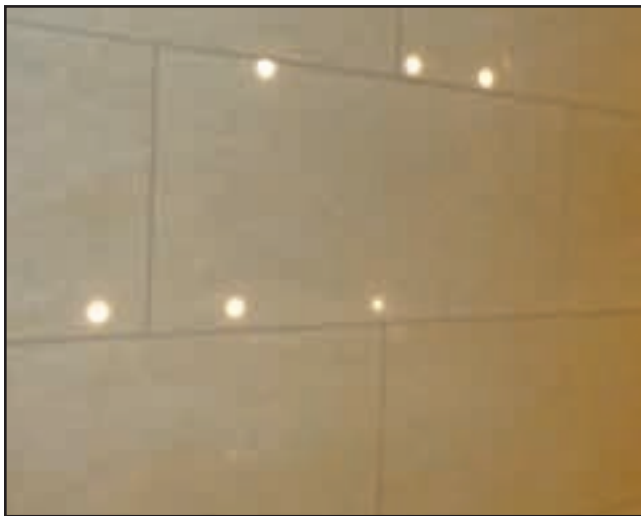


Figure 12-2:  
Typical flooring in the Phaeton

Porcelain ceramic tile (Figure 12-2) is standard throughout the motorhome with the exception of the slide-out rooms, which are carpeted, and the bedroom. 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.

You should not unduly saturate the floor surfaces with water, as this could damage the flooring substrate. Do not use any abrasives (cleansers, scouring pads; and the like) as they can scratch or mar the surfaces and may cause damage to the flooring.



## INTERIOR FEATURES

### HEATED TILE FLOOR (OPTIONAL)



Figure 12-3:  
Optional heated tile  
floor controller

Your Phaeton may be equipped with an optional heated tile floor. The heated tile floor does not heat the air but gently warms the surrounding surfaces and occupants, allowing for a lower thermostat setting than traditional heating methods while providing the same comfort level.

Peak floor temperature is 25-30° above ambient floor temperature.

The system uses a controller (Figure 12-3), that regulates the floor temperature by means of a sensor built into the floor, thus ensuring that the temperature sensed by the controller and the owner are the same. The optional heated tile floor provides clean, quiet heat, with no blowers or transformers, and it creates no hum or noise. The thermostat makes a quiet clicking as it switches on.

For further operating instructions, please refer to the manufacturer's literature in the Owner's Information Package.



### CAUTION

If using the floor heat as a primary heat source in freezing temperatures, be sure to activate the Aqua-Hot heating system in the basement to prevent water lines from freezing.

### CEILING



The ceiling (Figure 12-4) in the Phaeton motorhome is covered with a padded-vinyl headliner which can be easily cleaned with a damp, soft cloth and a mild detergent.

Clean around all vent areas to prevent any build-up of dirt, grease, or other accumulations.

## INTERIOR FEATURES

### CEILING FAN

The ceiling fan (Figure 12-5) operates on 12V power and features a two-speed fan (low and high).

There is a switch on the fan itself to allow for the desired rotation, clockwise or counterclockwise. To change rotation, be sure the main fan switch is in the “off” position.



### WINDOW TREATMENTS

Throughout the Phaeton, the window treatments consist of two shades—solar and blackout (Figure 12-6).

The solar shade allows one to see out during the daytime yet blocks most of the sunlight and heat from entering the motor home. The blackout shade creates complete privacy for nighttime.

The shades are located on all the windows in the living area and bedroom as well as in the cockpit.

The shades can be controlled by using the automatic control switch.



Figure 12-6:  
Day/night window shades

# ***Phaeton***

## **PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES**

---

Chapter

**13**

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### FRESHWATER SYSTEM

#### MONITOR PANEL

The monitor panel (Figure 13-1) permits checking the approximate levels in the fresh, gray, and black water holding tanks.

The monitor panel is located in the hallway and will run as an automatic feature of the motor-home.

The battery indicator button will display the voltage output available in the house batteries.



Figure 13-1: Monitor panel

#### KITCHEN SINK



The kitchen sink (Figure 13-2) installed is a double-bowl sink equipped with a sink cover 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.

Figure 13-2:  
Kitchen sink

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### BATH SINK, SHOWER & ACCESSORIES



Figure 13-3:  
Bathroom sink

The shower and sink in the bathroom are a solid, continuous surface. When cleaning this surface, use care to prevent scratching or marring it.



Figure 13-4:  
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 (Figure 13-5) are located in various, conveniently located areas throughout the motorhome where water is accessible.

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.



Figure 13-5:  
Water pump switch

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

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.

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

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

All 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, 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 (Figure 13-6).



Figure 13-6:  
City water supply  
connection

To connect the city water supply, connect one end of the hose to the city water supply.

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.

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.

If city water pressure is more than 60 psi, it is recommended to use a water pressure regulator to prevent any damage to the motorhome.

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### FILLING THE FRESHWATER TANK

The freshwater tank is normally filled from the city water connection. The valve located in the 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 motorhome.

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 motorhome is not in use for an extended period of time.

### WATER FILTER

This unit is equipped with a water filter (Figure 13-7) which must be removed before disinfecting the fresh-water system.



Figure 13-7: Water filter

First remove the water filter and then replace cover to allow the sanitizing solution access to the faucets. As installed, the filter will remove chlorine, dirt, and other matter. The filter will also eliminate most phenol (or similar) odors and tastes while delivering sparkling, taste-free water for drinking and cooking.

The water filter is located in the sanitation compartment on the outside of the motorhome. The water filter is not guaranteed to remove the tastes and odors of iron and sulfur. To remove these impurities, you 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 you are traveling in an area where the water has 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 motorhome.

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### WATER HEATER BYPASS SYSTEM

The water heater bypass valve (Figure 13-8) is located in the outside utility compartment. This process is performed when winterizing your motorhome. Using the bypass valve will keep antifreeze out of the water heater when winterizing the motorhome.

Draining the water heater during winterizing is a **MUST**.



### FRESHWATER LINES

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 motorhome to an authorized Tiffin Motorhomes service center for additional repairs if the water system continues to leak.

Follow the winterizing instructions given in Chapter 16 to reduce risk of leaks caused by cracks from freezing pipes. Left unchecked, freezing damage can be extensive and expensive.

### SANITIZING

To assure complete disinfecting of the freshwater system, it is recommended that the following procedures 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 valve. 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.



## **PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES**

4. Pour the chlorine solution into the tank by accessing the potable water fill located outside the passenger side of the motorhome.
5. Remove the water filter and put filter housing back on.
6. 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 vehicle forward and backward several times to clean the tank; then drain that tank and refill with clean water.

## **WASTEWATER SYSTEM**

### **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.

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### TOILET

The toilet (Figure 13-9) 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.

The toilet flushes waste directly into the black-water holding tank. It is imperative that you use as much water as possible when flushing to prevent tissue and other solids from clogging the holding tank outlet.

When using your toilet, fill the toilet  $\frac{3}{4}$  full of water. To add water to the toilet bowl, push the pedal lever  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way down until the desired water level is reached. To flush the toilet, push down on the lever until the water swirls. A small amount of water should remain in the bowl.



Figure 13-9: Toilet

The toilet should be cleaned regularly for maximum sanitation and operational efficiency. Clean the toilet bowl with a mild bathroom cleaner.

## NOTICE

Do not use chlorine or caustic chemicals, such as bleach or drain opening chemicals in your motorhome’s toilet. This will damage the seals in the toilet and dump valves.

### 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. 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.

### 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.

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### P-TRAPS

Each of the sink drains and the shower drain 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, allowing water to fill the traps again.

## NOTICE

Use only RV odor-controlling chemicals in the holding tanks. Products containing ammonia and petroleum will damage the ABS plastic holding tanks and seals. It is important that you use as much water as possible each time you flush the toilet. This will help prevent tissue and other solids from clogging the holding tank outlet.

### 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 found in the external sanitation compartment.

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. Do not pull the holding tank gate valve “open” when the protective cap is installed on the pipe.



Figure 13-10: Sanitation coupling, valve and hose

Always drain the tank into an acceptable sewer inlet or dump station. Whenever possible, drain both

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

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. 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 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.

## SEWER CONNECTION AND CAMPING

While using the motorhome, it is important to keep the black-waterholding-tank gate valve closed at all times, except when dumping. This allows an ample amount of liquid to remain 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. The gray tank can be kept open while hooked to a sewer connection.

**NOTE:** *When dumping, it is suggested to dump the black tank first, then the gray.*

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### 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 procedure is done, disconnect the freshwater hose and close the gate valve.

## NOTICE

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 Phaeton has an exterior shower (Figure 13-11) for your use and convenience outside the motorhome.

The exterior shower is located in the service compartment on the driver’s side and allows you to do such things as rinse off sand or grass, muddy shoes, or bathe yourself outside of your motorhome.

The faucet operates just as it would in your kitchen or bathroom. There is also a soap dispenser and light conveniently located in the compartment.



Figure 13-11: Exterior shower and shower light

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### AQUA-HOT HEATING SYSTEM

The Phaeton may be equipped with an optional Aqua-Hot heating system (Figure 13-12) that provides a continuous, on-demand supply of domestic hot water, as interior zone heating where and when it is needed.

To activate the Aqua-Hot heating system, the aqua-hot switch (labeled “diesel burner switch”) located in the side cabinet above the driver’s seat must be activated. By activating this switch, a supply of hot water as well as interior heat can be provided.

The heating feature will be controlled by the thermostat mounted on the wall. It is operated off the furnace function of the thermostat to provide interior heat. Hot water will be supplied instantaneously and continuously at any time the diesel burner switch is activated.

If interior heat and hot water are demanded from the Aqua-Hot system at the same time, hot water will simultaneously take precedence over interior heat; therefore causing the interior heat to shut down and turn off until the water flow is turned off from water sources.



Figure 13-13: Surge tank

Also featured in the Aqua-Hot system is an electrical burner switch. With this switch activated and shore power available, it will supply a very limited amount of hot water and limited interior heat.

The surge tank (Figure 13-13), located in the basement, should be routinely inspected to make sure the antifreeze fill line stays in the acceptable zone. If the antifreeze becomes low, you must add the recommended antifreeze stated in the Aqua-Hot’s owner’s manual. If antifreeze is totally depleted from the surge tank, a switch will be released inside the main Hydro-Hot tank disabling the system from operating. Antifreeze will then have to be added to the tank to reactivate the switch and allow the system to operate.

If batteries accidentally become discharged and the Aqua-Hot system is activated, the system will automatically shut down before batteries are totally discharged. Once power is restored to batteries, the system must be reset on outside control board.



Figure 13-12: Hydraunic heating system

## PLUMBING & BATH FEATURES

### NOTICE

Your Aqua-Hot heating system operates off the coach's sole diesel tank. Keep in mind that the Aqua-Hot fuel tube is located higher up in the diesel tank than the coach's engine fuel in order to prevent complete depletion of the diesel fuel tank. **BE SURE AN ADEQUATE AMOUNT OF FUEL IS IN THE TANK BEFORE DRY CAMPING.**

### NOTICE

Yearly maintenance is required on the burner portion of the Aqua-Hot heating system.



### WARNING

**DO NOT** operate the diesel-burner and/or the electric heating element without the water and anti-freeze solution in the Aqua-Hot's boiler tank. Failure to do so will cause **SERIOUS DAMAGE** to the heater.

# *Phaeton*

## **WINDOWS, AWNINGS, VENTS & DOORS**

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Chapter

14



## WINDOWS, AWNINGS, VENTS & DOORS

### WINDOWS

Sliding windows are custom built for the Phaeton and allow easy sliding access to open the coach to fresh outside air.

There may also be a reflective coating on the windows to reflect back a portion of the sunlight to reduce the heating of the motorhome interior and to reduce the effects of the sun's "bleaching" of interior fabrics (curtains, upholstery).

Sun shades on both the driver's and passenger's sides can be deployed and moved at any time.

Windows throughout the coach are designated as "EXIT" windows in the event of an emergency.



Figure 14-1: Phaeton windows

To help make the windows slide more easily, we recommend using Plexus Plastic Cleaner which can be purchased through the Tiffin Motorhomes Service Department.

## WINDOWS, AWNINGS, VENTS & DOORS

### AWNING



Figure 14-2: Power patio awning

The Phaeton will feature a Carefree of Colorado Wind Sensor patio awning (Figure 14-2) complete with direct response controls. The direct response controls offer a variety of convenient operating options for the motorized awning. During windy conditions, the system will retract the awning automatically.

For further detailed instructions on operation and maintenance, please refer to the manufacturer's literature found in the Owner's Information Package.

Figure 14-3: Power patio awning control switch located in the cabinet above the driver's side console



### WARNING

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, you should close that awning.

## WINDOWS, AWNINGS, VENTS & DOORS

### VENTS

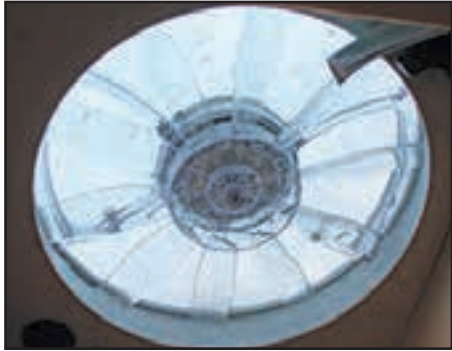


Figure 14-4: Overhead vent fan

The kitchen and bathroom are both equipped with a 12-VDC exhaust vent fan (Figure 13-3). A three-speed switch con-

controls the fan speed of both. The vent fan should only be left in the “on” mode when the motorhome is parked and in use. The fan will not operate until the vent is open.

### DOORS

The primary entrance door to the motorhome has 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 “open” position.

There is also a screen that allows increased air circulation when the entrance door is open.



### WARNING

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

# *Phaeton*

## **DRIVING YOUR MOTORHOME**

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Chapter

**15**

## DRIVING

# TRIPLE VISION CAMERA MONITOR SYSTEM



Figure 15-1:  
Rear-view camera monitor system

The rear-view monitoring system (Figure 15-1) is provided to aid the driver in backing and parking the motorhome.

A camera mounted on the rear of the vehicle feeds a televised view of the rear of the motorhome 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.

### **Basic Rear View Camera Operation:**

1. Depress the POWER switch. The picture appears on the monitor. POWER indicator lights up green. To turn off the picture, press it again to release. The monitor moves to standby condition. POWER indicator lights up red.
2. Adjust the VOLUME control.
3. Adjust the picture contrast and brightness. The DAY/NIGHT selector switch should normally be kept in the DAY (released) position. When you view the picture at night or in a tunnel, etc., depress the switch to make the picture less bright (therefore in the NIGHT position). Thus, the picture will be easy to view even in a dark place.

When you set the gear level to the “R” position with the POWER switch released: The monitor is turned on and the picture from the camera connected to the CAMERA “A” connector appears irrespective of the INPUT knob setting.

## **SIDE-MOUNT CAMERA**

As an enhanced aid to driving, the Phaeton features side-mounted cameras on both sides of the motorhome.

These side-mounted cameras are activated whenever the motor home in transit begins to make a turn. When the “left” turn indicator is used, the left-side camera is activated and that camera displays on the back-up monitor a rearward-oriented view of the driver’s side showing that side of the motorhome and a limited panorama of what is alongside and immediately behind the motorhome as it begins to turn into that direction.

In this manner, the typical “blind spot” of most motorhomes is drastically reduced or eliminated so that the driver can make those turns with great confidence. Similarly, the “right” turn indicator operates in

## DRIVING

the same manner to show a rearward view of the right side of the motorhome when a right hand turn is made.

## CB RADIO SYSTEM ANTENNA CONNECTION

As an option, the Phaeton may come 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.

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 motorhome operator.

## AM / FM / CD STEREO SYSTEM

An AM/FM/CD stereo system is included in the motorhome.

This system is powered by the 12-volt DC system of the motorhome and operates like any conventional car-stereo system. The coach is also SIRIUS XM compatible with a subscription.



Figure 15-2:  
Side-mount camera monitor

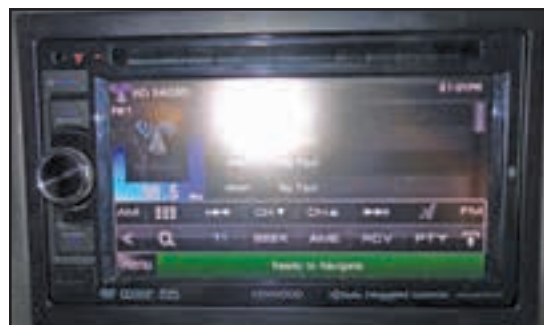


Figure 15-3: CD player

## DASHBOARD HEATING/COOLING CONTROLS

The dash air conditioner/heater is not designed to heat and cool the entire interior of the motorhome. It is intended only to provide heating and cooling for the cab area.

A small amount of air will blow out of all of the defrost and dash vents regardless of the mode settings.



Figure 15-4: Dashboard controls

## DRIVING

# AUTOMATIC LEVELING SYSTEM

The Phaeton is equipped with a HWH computer-controlled single step leveling system.

### To operate the automatic hydraulic leveling mode:

1. Set park brake. Ignition must be turned off.
2. Press the “Auto Level” button one time. The leveling system active light will flash.

During the automatic leveling sequence, after the system has extended the appropriate jacks to level the vehicle and has turned the yellow indicator lights off, the system will then stabilize the vehicle.



Figure 15-5: Leveling system control panel

### To retract the jack in automatic hydraulic leveling mode:

NOTE: When the jacks are stored with the ignition in the ON position, the warning buzzer will sound until the jacks have retracted to the STORE position. If desired, the jacks can be stored with the ignition key in the accessory position. This will eliminate the warning buzzer while the jacks are retracting.

1. Press the “AUTO STORE” button. The store indicator light will flash. The front jacks will retract for five seconds before the rear jacks will begin to retract. As each jack retracts, its red WARNING light will go out. The system will automatically shut down one minute after the four individual red WARNING lights are out. If any one red WARNING light does not go out, the system will continue to store for 50 minutes, then shut down regardless of the WARNING lights condition.
2. The vehicle can be moved as soon as the red warning lights are out.

### To operate in Manual mode:

1. Set park brake and place the ignition in the “ACCESSORY” position.
2. The vehicle may be leveled using the manual EXTEND (UP ARROW) buttons on the right half of the panel. If a yellow LEVEL SENSING light is on, that side, end or corner of the vehicle is low. It is best to

## **DRIVING**

level the vehicle side to side first, if needed, before front to rear.

3. When leveling is completed, turn the ignition switch to the “OFF” position.

### **To retract the jack in manual leveling mode:**

Simply turn ignition to the “On” position and push the “Store” button.

### **To manually override the jack system in event of power failure:**

1. Locate the manual valve release on each solenoid valve. The solenoid valves are located on the power unit/valve assembly in an outside compartment.
2. Allow clearance for the vehicle to lower.

**IMPORTANT:** Only open the valves enough to retract the jacks.

3. Push the manual release valves to a downward position.
4. Make sure that all four jacks are now retracted.
5. Close the valves by extending the manual valve releases to an extended position.

*For a more complete review of the leveling system, find the operation guide inside your Owner’s Information Packet.*



# ***Phaeton***

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

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Chapter

**16**

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

# NOTICE

Damage caused by improperly performed maintenance or inadequate maintenance is not covered by your Tiffin Motorhomes limited warranty.

## WASHING

The paint on your Tiffin motorhome has a polyurethane base called Diamont. While multiple layers of clear coat sealants protect the paint against oxidation, the sealant must be protected from deterioration.

Paint manufacturers advise against using harsh cleaners such as Simple Green, Mr. Clean, or liquid dish washing soaps. The degreasing agents in these cleaners leave a residue on the sealant, which softens and damages the clear coat in time.

Baby shampoo provides an effective yet gentle cleaner. Without the typical heavy degreasers of most detergents, baby shampoo cleans without leaving a residue to gum up the clear coat finish. Generally one ounce (1 oz.) is all you need per five gallon bucket of water. Add one cup of food grade distilled white vinegar to your wash bucket.

Tiffin Motorhomes recommends the lambswool pad sold by Mary Moppins. This allows you to safely wash your coach from the ground by placing the pad on an extension.

Do not mistake lambswool with imitations. Imitation pads are made from 100% polyester, which is plastic. Plastic imitations will scratch the finish of the motorhome. For this same reason avoid microfiber products to wash or dry your motorhome, car, boat, airplane, motorcycle, vehicle, furniture, or cabinets. Microfiber is made from 80% polyester.

DO NOT wash with brushes. Even though you may not see brush marks now, the damage will happen as the bristles wear down.



Figure 16-1: Typical motor home exterior

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Use only 100% cotton towels to dry your vehicle. Adding vinegar to your wash water and washing in the morning or evening will help prevent water spots. Water spots damage the exterior of your coach the same way they damage glass shower doors. They etch their way into the surface and removal becomes difficult. Prevention becomes the key.

Wash one side at a time, rinse, and then dry quickly using a squeegee followed by a towel placed over the cleaning head.

To remove oil and grease remember an important rule of cleaning: Give your product time to work. Dab a bit of concentrated cleaner like CleanEz by Mary Moppins—never an orange based cleaner or one with petroleum distillates—onto a soft cloth. Apply to the oil spot and wait 10 to 15 minutes before rubbing lightly to remove the oil. Rinse immediately.



### **WARNING**

**DO NOT** use any type of brush or plastic wash mats on the exterior paint as this could cause damage to the finish of your motorhome.

## 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 semi-annually. 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 resealing inspections and subsequent work for you. It is recommended that a Tiffin Motorhomes authorized service center perform these inspections periodically and perform necessary resealing when necessary.

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### PROPER SEALANTS FOR APPLICATION

The following sealants are recommended for specific sealing applications, as noted in the table. These can be purchased through the Tiffin Motorhomes parts and service department by calling 256-356-0261.

#### Recommended sealants for specific sealing applications

SEALANT	APPLICATION
Plas-T-Code	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 on exterior surfaces where silicone is not used

## NOTICE

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.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

### WHEEL CARE

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



### CAUTION

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 nonmetallic and non-abrasive. Also, remember to check the tightness of the wheel lug nuts frequently.

### ROOF CARE & MAINTENANCE

Proper care and maintenance of your motorhome, including your roof (Figure 16-2), is important for sustained, trouble-free performance. Normal maintenance is simple and easy and does not require special materials.

The roof of the motorhome is fiberglass and can be cared for in the conventional manner. Clean the roof at least every three months. The roof should be professionally inspected by a dealer annually.



### WARNING

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

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

# MOISTURE MANAGEMENT

This section outlines important recommendations to manage moisture in your motorhome to avoid moisture-related damage, such as mold. The materials and methods used to construct your motorhome were selected in part to minimize air leakage and to create a weather tight exterior shell. However, in order to protect your investment and reduce the risk of moisture-related damage and costly repairs, attention and care has to be taken to manage moisture inside your RV.

**Note:** These are only suggestions intended to minimize moisture-related issues with your motorhome. If any concerns arise, contact Tiffin Motorhomes' Service Department at (256) 356-0261.

### Interior Care of your RV

Signs of excessive moisture can be obvious, such as water droplets forming on surfaces or wet carpet. Conversely, signs of excess moisture can be subtle, such as condensation forming on metal surfaces. When symptoms appear, it is important to immediately determine the cause of the excess moisture and take appropriate corrective action to prevent moisture related damage.

### Control relative humidity

Monitoring and controlling relative humidity within the motorhome is one of the most important steps to minimize the risk for moisture-related damage. Ideally, relative humidity should be at 60% or less. Relative humidity can be monitored utilizing a portable hygrometer, which is a small device that measures temperature and relative humidity.

Use exhaust fans, the air conditioner, and/or a portable dehumidifier to manage moisture inside the RV to maintain relative humidity at 60% or less. In cold climates, relative humidity may need to be at 35% or less to avoid window condensation issues. If the motorhome is used the majority of the time in a hot, humid climate, it may be difficult to keep relative humidity below 60%. A dehumidifier will help, but is important to check the condensation (water) collection bucket regularly or discharge the condensation (water) directly to a drain.

### Avoid drastic thermostat setbacks

To minimize the opportunity for condensation to form on interior surfaces, maintain a comfortable temperature in your RV, and avoid nighttime setbacks of 10 degrees or more. Drastic setbacks that reduce the indoor air temperature quickly can increase the chance for airborne moisture to condense on cool surfaces such as windows. If you are away from your RV for an extended number of days, it is recommended that you do not set the temperature back without taking other measures to manage relative humidity, including operating a dehumidifier with a continuous drain.

### Manage Window Condensation

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

Window condensation issues can be identified by water or ice-build up, usually at the base of the window. The majority of these problems can be addressed by managing moisture generated inside the motorhome. Minor condensation issues are not unusual, especially for RVs used in colder climates. To help minimize window condensation, use exhaust fans vented to the outside, avoid drastic changes in thermostat settings, do not use “vent-free” heaters and use window coverings wisely. For example, make sure to open curtains or blinds during the day to allow air to circulate and warm the window surface.

### **Carpet Care and Moisture Management**

The carpet should be cleaned when it shows signs of discoloration or traffic patterns. A steam cleaning system should be used to clean the carpet unless other noted in your warranty information. To manage moisture from the cleaning process, the cleaning system needs to be capable of extracting the excess water from the carpet after it has been cleaned.

**Important:** Be sure the carpet is thoroughly dry before closing up the RV for storage. Water from the cleaning process can cause significant damage to the RV if the carpet is not completely dry before closing up the motorhome for an extended period.

### **Cleaning Tile and Wood Floors**

Most floors only require a mild detergent and warm water for cleaning. More water on the floor is not always better for cleaning. Use a damp cloth to clean on a regular basis rather than wet mopping each time.

### **Storage and Other Isolated Areas within the RV**

Storage areas are more difficult to condition since the areas are isolated from the main body of the RV. The surfaces of these areas are more at risk for condensation and surface mold growth. To minimize this risk, clean storage areas regularly, and allow an air space between stored items and the exterior wall to promote air circulation.

### **Use of Un-Vented Combustion Equipment**

Un-vented combustion equipment, such as propane stovetops are a source of moisture within the RV. For every gallon of fuel consumed, approximately one gallon of water vapor is evaporated into the air. Whenever possible, operate an exhaust fan in combination with the use of any un-vented combustion appliance within the RV. Water vapor and other combustion byproducts should be vented to the exterior of the RV. The RV owner should strictly follow use and maintenance instructions for safe operation of any combustion equipment, particularly un-vented equipment.

### **Exterior Care of Your RV**

The exterior shell of the RV is the primary weather and moisture barrier. Over the life of the vehicle,

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

the shell will require regular care and maintenance in accordance with other instructions for exterior care. The shell includes the roof, sidewalls, windows, doors, and under-floor of the vehicle. Particular attention needs to be devoted to ensure these components are maintained to ensure a tight barrier against bulk water intrusion. The shell should be inspected periodically for tears, gaps, and condition of sealants in accordance with this owner's manual. Areas that require maintenance should be resealed utilizing a similar, high quality sealant used by the manufacturer. Particular attention should be devoted to ensure the slide outs are functioning properly. Each time a slide out is used it should be inspected to ensure proper operation and sealing. The slide out gaskets should also be inspected to ensure proper sealing when the slide out is operated.

### **Use of Your RV**

It is important to remember that the square footage of an RV is significantly less than that of a single family residence. This fact alone will elevate the relative humidity because there is less volume of air to help absorb or dissipate the humidity. For example, showering and cooking create a lot of humidity in a small area. In these instances, use of an exhaust fan and opening windows should reduce the relative humidity, particularly when living in the RV for an extended period.

### **Severe Environments**

Prolonged use of your RV in severe environments—for example in extremely cold or hot-humid climates, will require extra care and maintenance to avoid moisture-related issues. In both extremely cold and hot humid climates more attention needs to be focused on controlling relative humidity within the RV. It also may require the use of a portable dehumidifier to manage relative humidity within an acceptable range.

### **Storage of Your RV**

During those periods when your motorhome is not in use, care must be taken to ensure moisture sources are addressed. Ideal storage of your RV would be in an enclosed climate controlled environment. When this is not possible, the following steps should be taken to ensure moisture is controlled:

- Turn off all water sources
- Turn off all combustion appliances
- Drain the water tank(s)
- Drain the water heater
- Open all closets, cabinet doors and drawers
- Close all windows and entrance doors
- Open a vent or a window enough to allow for some limited ventilation air flow, but not so far as to allow snow or rain to enter
- When storing the RV in high humidity climates, add a dehumidifier drained to exterior to control humidity inside the RV during storage
- Refer to other sections of this owner's manual for additional recommendations



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### Modifications to your RV

Consult Tiffin Motorhomes for guidance prior to making any modifications to your RV. It is important that changes be completed by a qualified service firm to ensure moisture intrusion or accumulation problems do not occur.

### Wet Areas

Areas that are exposed to water spills or leaks should be dried as soon as possible and definitely within 24 to 48 hours. Drying areas quickly minimizes the chance for moisture damage and possible mold growth, which can begin to form colonies within 48 hours. A variety of methods can be used to help the drying process:

- Remove excess water with an extraction vacuum
- Use a dehumidifier to aid drying
- Use portable fans to move air across the surface
- Because moisture is key to mold issues, treat all signs of condensation and spills seriously and deal with promptly. Failure to deal with a moisture issue promptly may cause more severe issues where none initially existed, or may make a small problem much worse.
- Learn to recognize signs of mold—don't paint over or cover up suspicious discoloration until you are sure it is not mold. The affected surface must first be cleaned and dried; residual staining may be painted.
- Be sure to understand and eliminate the source of moisture accumulation as a part of the cleanup. Otherwise, the same issues will simply reoccur.
- Small amounts of mold should be cleaned as soon as it appears. Small areas of mold should be cleaned using a detergent/soapy solution or an appropriate RV household cleaner. Gloves should be worn during cleaning. The cleaned area should then be thoroughly dried. Dispose of any sponges or rags used to clean mold.

## TIRE & SAFETY INFORMATION

This portion of the Owner's Manual contains tire safety information as required by 49 CFR 575.6. The National Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) can be contacted at 1-888-327-4236. Their web site is <http://www.safecar.gov> and their address is: NHTSA, 400 Seventh St, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

### Section One:

The National Traffic Safety (NHTSA) has published a brochure (DOT HS 809 361) that discusses all aspects of Tire Safety, as required by CFR 575.6. This brochure is reproduced in part below. It can be obtained and downloaded from NHTSA, free of charge, from the following web site: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/rules/TireSafety/ridesonit/tires index.html>

Studies of tire safety show that maintaining proper tire pressure, observing tire and vehicle load limits, avoiding road hazards, and inspecting tires for cuts, slashes, and other irregularities are the most important things you can do to avoid tire failure, such as tread separation or blowout and flat tires.

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These actions, along with other care and maintenance activities, can also:

- Improve vehicle handling
- Help protect you and others from avoidable breakdowns and accidents
- Improve fuel economy
- Increase the life of your tires

This section presents a comprehensive overview of tire safety, including information on the following topics:

- Basic tire maintenance
- Uniform Tire Quality Grading System
- Fundamental characteristics of tires
- Tire safety tips

Use this information to make tire safety a regular part of your vehicle maintenance routine. Recognize that the time you spend is minimal compared with the inconvenience and safety consequences of a flat tire or other tire failure.

### **Safety First-Basic Tire Maintenance**

Properly maintained tires improve the steering, stopping, traction, and load-carrying capability of your vehicle. Under-inflated tires and overloaded vehicles are a major cause of tire failure. Therefore, as mentioned above, to avoid flat tires and other types of tire failure, you should maintain proper tire pressure, observe tire and vehicle load limits, avoid road hazards, and regularly inspect your tires.

### **Finding Your Vehicle's Recommended Tire Pressure and Load Limits**

Tire information placards and vehicle certification labels contain information on tires and load limits. These labels indicate the vehicle manufacturer's information including:

- Recommended tire size
- Recommended tire inflation pressure
- Vehicle capacity weight (VCW—the maximum occupant and cargo weight a vehicle is designed to carry)
- Front and rear gross axle weight ratings (GAWR—the maximum weight the axle systems are designed to carry)

**For motor homes:** Both placards and certification labels are on a sticker that is located in the rear closet.

### **Understanding Tire Pressure and Load Limits**

Tire inflation pressure is the level of air in the tire that provides it with load-carrying capacity and affects the overall performance of the vehicle. The tire inflation pressure is a number that indicates the amount of air pressure—measured in pounds per square inch (psi)—a tire requires to be properly

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inflated. (You will also find this number on the vehicle information placard expressed in kilopascals (kPa), which is the metric measure used internationally).

Vehicle manufacturers determine this number based on the vehicle's design load limit, that is, the greatest amount of weight a vehicle can safely carry and the vehicle's tire size. The proper tire pressure for your vehicle is referred to as the "recommended cold inflation pressure."

Because tires are designed to be used on more than one type of vehicle, tire manufacturers list the "maximum permissible inflation pressure" on the tire sidewall. This number is the greatest amount of air pressure that should ever be put in the tire under normal driving conditions.

### **Checking Tire Pressure**

It is important to check your vehicle's tire pressure at least once a month for the following reasons:

- Most tires may naturally lose air over time
- Tires can lose air suddenly if you drive over a pothole or other object or if you strike the curb when parking
- With radial tires, it is usually not possible to determine under-inflation by visual inspection

For convenience, purchase a tire pressure gauge to keep in your vehicle. Gauges can be purchased at tire dealerships, auto supply stores, and other retail outlets.

The recommended tire inflation pressure that vehicle manufacturers provide reflects the proper psi when a tire is cold. The term cold does not relate to the outside temperature. Rather, a cold tire is one that has not been driven on for at least three hours. When you drive, your tires get warmer, causing the air pressure within them to increase. Therefore, to get an accurate tire pressure reading, you must measure tire pressure when the tires are cold or compensate for the extra pressure in warm tires.

### **Steps for Maintaining Proper Tire Pressure**

- Step 1: Locate the recommended tire pressure on the vehicle's tire information placard, certification label, or in the owner's manual
- Step 2: Record the tire pressure of all tires
- Step 3: If the tire pressure is too high in any of the tires, slowly release air by gently pressing on the tire valve stem with the edge of your tire gauge until you get to the correct pressure
- Step 4: If the tire pressure is too low, note the difference between the measured tire pressure and correct tire pressure. These "missing" pounds of pressure are what you will need to add
- Step 5: At a service station, add the missing pounds of air pressure to each tire that is under-inflated
- Step 6: Check all the tires to make sure they have the same air pressure (except in cases in which the front and rear tires are supposed to have different amounts of pressure)

If you have been driving your vehicle and think that a tire is under-inflated, fill it to the recommended cold inflation pressure indicated on your vehicle's tire information placard or certification label. While

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

your tire may still be slightly under-inflated due to the extra pounds of pressure in the warm tire, it is safer to drive with air pressure that is slightly lower than the vehicle manufacturer's recommended cold inflation pressure than to drive with a significantly under-inflated tire. Since this is a temporary fix, don't forget to recheck and adjust the tire's pressure when you can obtain a cold reading.

### **Tire Size**

To maintain tire safety, purchase new tires that are the same size as the vehicle's original tires or another size recommended by the manufacturer. Look at the tire information placard, the owner's manual, or the sidewall of the tire you are replacing to find this information. If you have any doubt about the correct size to choose, consult with the tire dealer.

### **Tire Tread**

The tire tread provides the gripping action and traction that prevent your vehicle from slipping or sliding, especially when the road is wet or icy. In general, tires are not safe and should be replaced when the tread is worn down to 1/16 of an inch. Tires have built-in tread-wear indicators that let you know when it is time to replace your tires. These indicators are raised sections spaced intermittently in the bottom of the tread grooves. When they appear "even" with the outside of the tread, it is time to replace your tires.

Another method for checking tread depth is to place a penny in the tread with Lincoln's head upside down and facing you. If you can see the top of Lincoln's head, you are ready for new tires.

### **Tire Balance and Wheel Alignment**

To avoid vibration or shaking of the vehicle when a tire rotates, the tire must be properly balanced. This balance is achieved by positioning weights on the wheel to counterbalance heavy spots on the wheel-and-tire assembly. A wheel alignment adjusts the angles of the wheels so that they are positioned correctly relative to the vehicle's frame. This adjustment maximizes the life of your tires. These adjustments require special equipment and should be performed by a qualified technician.

### **Tire Rotation**

Rotating tires from front to back and from side to side can reduce irregular wear (for vehicles that have tires that are all the same size). Look in your owner's manual for information on how frequently the tires on your vehicle should be rotated and the best pattern for rotation.

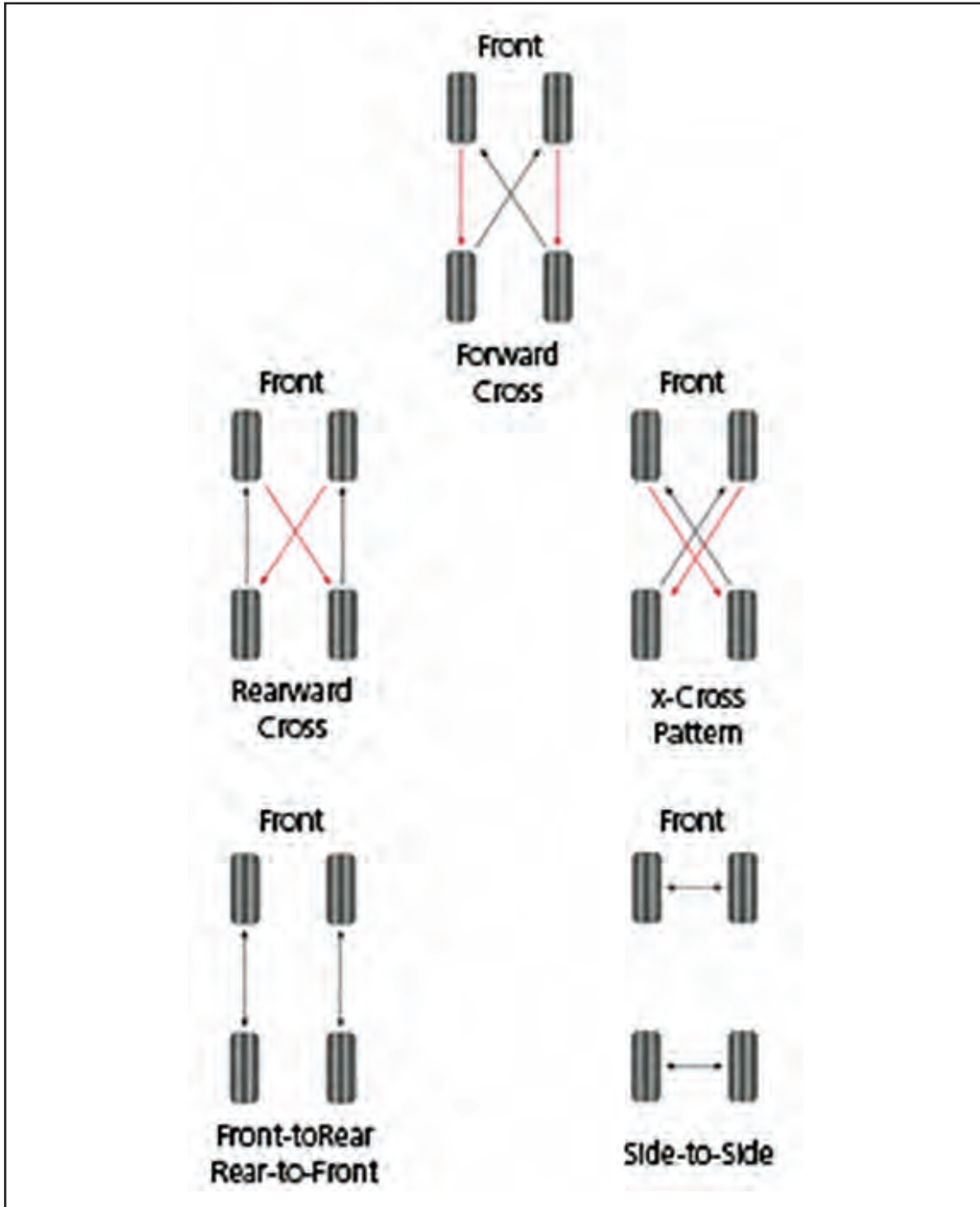
### **Tire Repair**

The proper repair of a punctured tire requires a plug for the hole and a patch for the area inside the tire surrounds the puncture hole. Punctures through the tread can be repaired if they are not too large, but punctures to the sidewall should not be repaired. Tires must be removed from the rim to be properly inspected before being plugged and patched.

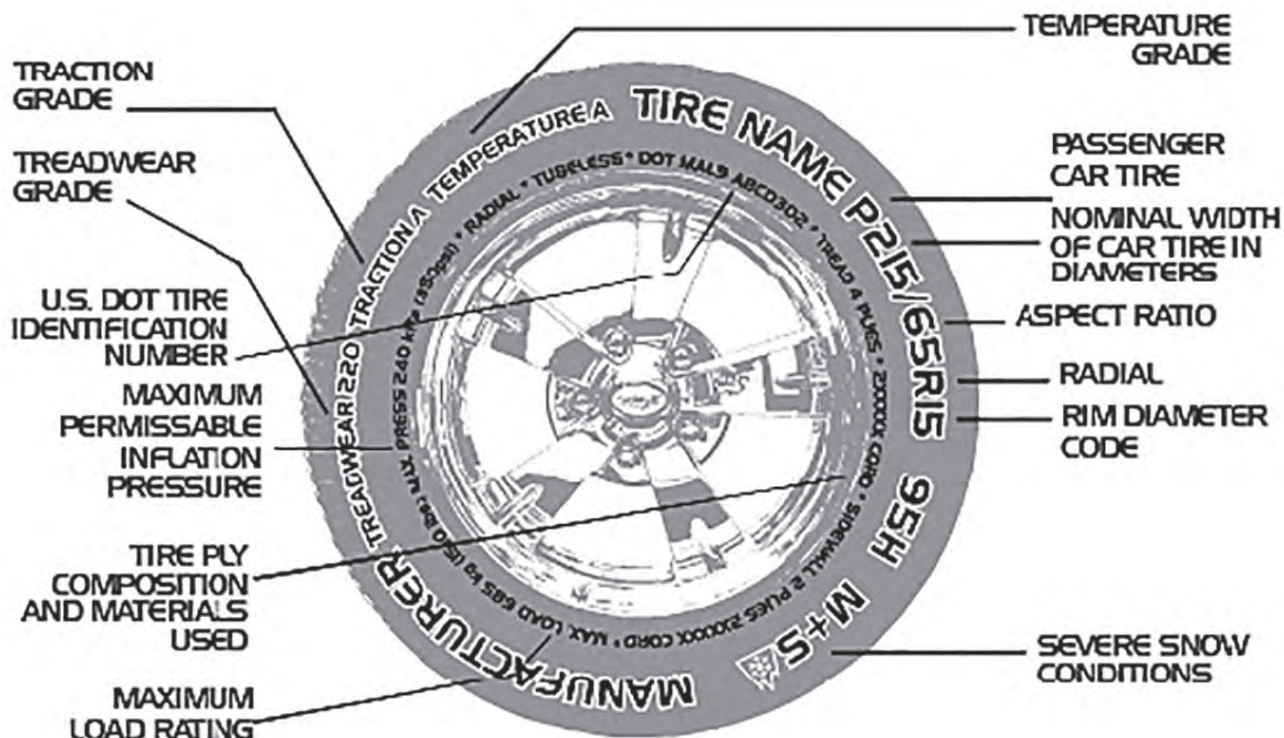
## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

### A Tire Rotation Example

For maximum mileage, rotate your tires every 5,000 miles. Follow correct rotation patterns.



## Information on Passenger Vehicle Tires



**P**—The “P” indicates the tire is for passenger vehicles. **NOTE:** Passenger car tires are not recommended for use on trailers, because the capacity ratings are not marked on the side walls of these tires. In the event a passenger car tire is used, the capacity must be de-rated by 10%.

**Next number**—This three-digit number gives the width in millimeters of the tire from sidewall edge to sidewall edge. In general, the larger the number, the wider the tire.

**Next number**—This two-digit number, known as the aspect ratio, gives the tire’s ratio of height to width. Numbers of 70 or lower indicate a short sidewall for improved steering response and better overall handling on dry pavement.

**R**—The “R” stands for radial. Radial ply construction of tires has been the industry standard for more than 20 years.

**Next number**—This two-digit number is the wheel or rim diameter in inches. If you change your wheel size, you will have to purchase new tires to match the new wheel number.

**Next number**—This two- or three-digit number is the tire’s load index. It is a measurement of how much weight each tire can support. You may find this information in your owner’s manual. If not, contact a local tire dealer.

**NOTE:** You may not find this information on all tires because it is not required by law.

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**M+S**—The “M+S” or “M/S” indicates that the tire has some mud and snow capability. Most radial tires have these markings.

**Speed Rating**—The speed rating denotes the speed at which a tire is designed to be driven for extended periods of time.

**U.S. DOT Tire Identification Number**—This begins with the letters “DOT” and indicates that the tire meets all federal standards. The next two numbers or letters are the plant code where it was manufactured, and the last four numbers represent the week and year the tire was built. For example, the numbers 1612 means the 16th week of 2012. The other numbers are marketing codes used at the manufacturer’s discretion. This information is used to contact customers if a tire defect requires a recall.

**Tire Ply Composition and Materials Used**—The number of plies indicates the number of layers of rubber-coated fabric in the tire. In general, the greater the number of plies, the more weight a tire can support. Tire manufacturers also must indicate the materials in the tire, which include steel, nylon, polyester, and others.

**Maximum Load Rating**—This number indicates the maximum load in kilograms and pounds that can be carried by the tire.

**Maximum Permissible Inflation Pressure**—This number is the greatest amount of air pressure that should ever be put in the tire under normal driving conditions.

### Vehicle Load Limits

Determining the load limits of a vehicle includes more than understanding the load limits of the tires alone. On a motorhome, there is a federal certification label that is affixed in the rear closet. The certification label will indicate the vehicle’s gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR). This is the most weight the fully loaded vehicle can weigh. It will also provide the gross axle weight rating (GAWR).

This is the most a particular axle can weigh. If there are multiple axles, the GAWR of each axle will be provided. For motorhomes, in the same location as the certification label described above, there is a vehicle placard in the entry door frame. This placard provides tire and loading information. In addition, this placard will show the vehicle’s seating capacity for people and a statement regarding maximum cargo capacity.

### Cargo Capacities

For motorhomes, cargo can be added to the vehicle, up to the maximum weight specified on the placard. For motorized vehicles, the combined weight of passengers and cargo is provided as a single number. If fewer people are traveling, more cargo can be added. If more people are involved, the weight of cargo must be reduced. In any case, remember: the total weight of a fully loaded vehicle, including passengers, can not exceed the stated GVWR.

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

For motorhomes, the water and propane also need to be considered. The weight of fully filled propane containers is considered part of the weight of the RV before it is loaded with people or cargo and is not considered part of the disposable cargo load. Water, however, is a cargo weight and is treated as such. If there is a fresh water storage tank of 50 gallons, this tank when filled would weigh about 400 pounds. If more cargo or people are being transported, water can be off-loaded to keep the total amount of cargo added to the vehicle within the limits of the GVWR so as not to overload the vehicle.

Understanding this flexibility will allow you to make choices that fit your travel and camping needs. When loading your cargo, be sure it is distributed evenly to prevent overloading front to back and side to side. Heavy items should be placed low and as close to the axle positions as reasonable. Too many items on one side may overload a tire.

The best way to know the actual weight of the vehicle is to weigh it at a certified public scale. Talk to your RV dealer to discuss the weighing methods needed to determine the various weights related to the RV. This would include weights for the following: axles, wheels, hitch and total weight.

### **How Overloading Affects Your RV and Tires**

The results of overloading can have serious consequences for passenger safety. Too much weight on your vehicle's suspension system can cause spring, shock absorber, or brake failure, handling or steering problems, irregular tire wear, tire failure or other damage.

An overloaded vehicle is hard to drive and hard to stop. In cases of serious overloading, brakes can fail completely, particularly on steep hills. The load a tire will safely carry is a combination of the size of tire, its load range, and corresponding inflation pressure.

Excessive loads and/or under-inflation cause tire overloading and, as a result, abnormal tire flexing occurs. This situation can generate an excessive amount of heat within the tire. Excessive heat may lead to tire wear and eventually tire failure.

It is the air pressure that enables a tire to support the load, so proper inflation is critical. Since RVs can be configured and loaded in many ways, air pressures must be determined from actual loads (determined by weighing) and taken from the load and inflation tables provided by the tire manufacturer. These air pressures may differ from those found on the certification label. However, they should never exceed the tire limitation for load or air pressure.

### **Tire Safety Tips**

#### **Preventing Tire Damage**

- Slow down if you have to go over a pothole or other object in the road.
- Do not run over curbs or other foreign objects in the roadway, and try not to strike the curb



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when parking.

### Tire Safety Checklist

- Check tire pressure regularly (at least once a month), including the spare.
- Inspect tires for uneven wear patterns on the tread, cracks, foreign objects, or other signs of wear or trauma.
- Remove bits of glass and foreign objects wedged in the tread.
- Make sure your tire valves have valve caps.
- Check tire pressure before going on a long trip.
- Do not overload your vehicle. Check the Tire Information and Loading Placard or User's Manual for the maximum recommended load for the vehicle.

### Section Two:

#### Steps for Determining Correct Load Limit

1. Locate the statement "The combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed XXX lbs" on your vehicles placard.
2. Determine the combined weight of the driver and passengers that will be riding in your vehicle.
3. Subtract the combined weight of the driver and passengers from XXX kilograms or XXX pounds.
4. The resulting figure equals the available amount of cargo and luggage capacity. For example, if the "XXX" equals 1400 lbs. and there will be five 150 lb. passengers in your vehicle, the amount of available cargo and luggage capacity is 650 lbs.  $(1400 - 750 (5 \times 150) = 650 \text{ lbs.})$
5. Determine the combined weight of luggage and cargo being loaded on the vehicle. That weight may not safely exceed the available cargo and luggage capacity calculated in Step #4.
6. If your vehicle will be towing a trailer, load from your trailer will be transferred to your vehicle. Consult this section to determine how this reduces the available cargo and luggage capacity of your vehicle.

### Section Three:

#### Glossary of Tire Terminology

**Accessory weight**—The combined weight (in excess of those standard items which may be replaced) of automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, power windows, power seats, radio and heater, to the extent that these items are available as factory-installed equipment (whether installed or not).

**Bead**—The part of the tire that is made of steel wires, wrapped or reinforced by ply cords and that is

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shaped to fit the rim.

**Bead separation**—This is the breakdown of the bond between components in the bead.

**Bias ply tire**—A pneumatic tire in which the ply cords that extend to the beads are laid at alternate angles substantially less than 90 degrees to the centerline of the tread.

**Carcass**—The tire structure, except tread and sidewall rubber which, when inflated, bears the load.

**Chunking**—The breaking away of pieces of the tread or sidewall.

**Cold inflation pressure**—The pressure in the tire before you drive.

**Cord**—The strands forming the plies in the tire.

**Cord separation**—The parting of cords from adjacent rubber compounds.

**Cracking**—Any parting within the tread, sidewall, or inner liner of the tire extending to cord material.

**CT**—A pneumatic tire with an inverted flange tire and rim system in which the rim is designed with rim flanges pointed radially inward and the tire is designed to fit on the underside of the rim in a manner that encloses the rim flanges inside the air cavity of the tire.

**Curb weight**—The weight of a motor vehicle with standard equipment including the maximum capacity of fuel, oil, and coolant, and, if so equipped, air conditioning and additional weight optional engine.

**Extra load tire**—A tire designed to operate at higher loads and at higher inflation pressures than the corresponding standard tire.

**Groove**—The space between two adjacent tread ribs.

**Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)**—The maximum permissible weight of this fully loaded motorhome.

**Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR)**—The value specified as the load carrying capacity of a single axle system, as measured at the tire-ground interfaces.

**Hitch Weight**—The vertical trailer load supported by the hitch ball.

**Innerliner separation**—The parting of the innerliner from cord material in the carcass.

**Intended outboard sidewall**—The sidewall that contains a white-wall, bears white lettering or bears

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manufacturer, brand, and /or model name molding that is higher or deeper than the same molding on the other sidewall of the tire or the outward facing sidewall of an asymmetrical tire that has a particular side that must always face outward when mounted on a vehicle.

**Light truck (LT) tire**—A tire designated by its manufacturer as primarily intended for use on light-weight trucks or multipurpose passenger vehicles.

**Load rating**—The maximum load that a tire is rated to carry for a given inflation pressure.

**Maximum load rating**—The load rating for a tire at the maximum permissible inflation pressure for that tire.

**Maximum permissible inflation pressure**—The maximum cold inflation pressure to which a tire may be inflated.

**Maximum loaded vehicle weight**—The sum of curb weight, accessory weight, vehicle capacity weight, and production options weight.

**Measuring rim**—The rim on which a tire is fitted for physical dimension requirements.

**Non-pneumatic rim**—A mechanical device which, when a non-pneumatic tire assembly incorporates a wheel, supports the tire, and attaches, either integrally or separably, to the wheel center member and upon which the tire is attached.

**Non-pneumatic tire assembly**—A non-pneumatic tire, alone or in combination with a wheel or wheel center member, which can be mounted on a vehicle.

**Normal occupant weight**—This means 68 kilograms (150 lbs.) times the number of occupants specified in the second column of Table I of 49 CFR 571.110.

**Occupant distribution**—The distribution of occupants in a vehicle as specified in the third column of Table I of 49 CFR 571.110.

**Open splice**—Any parting at any junction of tread, sidewall, or innerliner that extends to cord material.

**Outer diameter**—The overall diameter of an inflated new tire.

**Overall width**—The linear distance between the exteriors of the sidewalls of an inflated tire, including elevations due to labeling, decorations, or protective bands or ribs.

**Pin Weight**—The vertical trailer load supported by the king pin of a fifth wheel hitch.

**Ply**—A layer of rubber-coated parallel cords.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

**Ply separation**—A parting of rubber compound between adjacent plies.

**Pneumatic tire**—A mechanical device made of rubber, chemicals, fabric and steel or other materials, that, when mounted on an automotive wheel, provides the traction and contains the gas or fluid that sustains the load.

**Production options weight**—The combined weight of those installed regular production options weighing over 2.3 kilograms (5 lbs.) in excess of those standard items which they replace, not previously considered in curb weight or accessory weight, including heavy duty brakes, ride levelers, roof rack, heavy duty battery, and special trim.

**Radial ply tire**—A pneumatic tire in which the ply cords that extend to the beads are laid at substantially 90 degrees to the centerline of the tread.

**Recommended inflation pressure**—This is the inflation pressure provided by the vehicle manufacturer on the Tire Information label and on the Certification/ VIN tag.

**Reinforced tire**—A tire designed to operate at higher loads and at higher inflation pressures than the corresponding standard tire.

**Rim**—A metal support for a tire or a tire and tube assembly upon which the tire beads are seated.

**Rim diameter**—This means the nominal diameter of the bead seat.

**Rim size designation**—This means the rim diameter and width.

**Rim type designation**—This means the industry of manufacturer's designation for a rim by style or code.

**Rim width**—This means the nominal distance between rim flanges.

**Section width**—The linear distance between the exteriors of the sidewalls of an inflated tire, excluding elevations due to labeling, decoration, or protective bands.

**Sidewall**—That portion of a tire between the tread and bead.

**Sidewall separation**—The parting of the rubber compound from the cord material in the sidewall.

**Test rim**—The rim on which a tire is fitted for testing, and may be any rim listed as appropriate for use with that tire.

**Tread**—That portion of a tire that comes into contact with the road.

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**Tread rib**—A tread section running circumferentially around a tire.

**Tread separation**—Pulling away of the tread from the tire carcass.

**Treadwear indicators (TWI)**—The projections within the principal grooves designed to give a visual indication of the degrees of wear of the tread.

**Vehicle capacity weight**—The rated cargo and luggage load plus 68 kilograms (150 lbs.) times the vehicle's designated seating capacity.

**Vehicle maximum load on the tire**—The load on an individual tire that is determined by distributing to each axle its share of the maximum loaded vehicle weight and dividing by two.

**Vehicle normal load on the tire**—The load on an individual tire that is determined by distributing to each axle its share of the curb weight, accessory weight, and normal occupant weight (distributed in accordance with Table I of CFR 49 571.110) and dividing by 2.

**Weather side**—The surface area of the rim not covered by the inflated tire.

**Wheel center member**—In the case of a non-pneumatic tire assembly incorporating a wheel, a mechanical device which attached, either integrally or separably, to the non-pneumatic rim and provides the connection between the non-pneumatic rim and the vehicle; or, in the case of a non-pneumatic tire assembly not incorporating a wheel, a mechanical device which attaches, either integrally or separably, to the non-pneumatic tire and provides the connection between tire and the vehicle.

## 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 motorhome is dangerous and may cause premature wear, tire damage, and/or loss of control of the motorhome.

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.

Underinflated tires will also cause poor handling of the motorhome, rapid and/or irregular tire wear, and an increase in rolling resistance of the motorhome 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 motorhome. A tire that is over-inflated 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 motorhome 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 you look at a tire sidewall, you 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 you need depends on the weight of the fully loaded motorhome. You cannot determine the correct air-inflation pressure, unless you know the actual weights of the motorhome.**

### Weighing the Motorhome

Earlier, in Chapter 1, the procedures for weighing the motorhome were presented. These procedures provided the weighing of a “non-loaded” (i.e., not stocked with the possessions and provisions the user would normally have onboard for travel) motorhome. Obviously, any additional weight stored onboard (inside and underneath) the motorhome will contribute to the overall weight of the motorhome.

If not stored uniformly throughout the motorhome, additional weight of the possessions and provisions of the motorhome 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 motorhome fully loaded as the user would have it for travel.** Moreover, **it is necessary to weigh each tire position individually.**

Overloading the motorhome can produce problems with the tires, wheels, springs, brakes, drive train, and other motorhome assemblies. In addition, an overloaded motorhome 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 motorhome and subsequent damage.

In certain states, the Highway Patrol routinely weighs motorhomes to check for overloaded axle weights. Therefore, there are many good reasons for assuring that the motorhome is properly loaded and not overloaded—this can be accomplished through a proper weighing of the fully loaded motorhome.









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You can find various places that have certified public scales where your motorhome 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 motorhome. You can also check the Yellow Pages of the telephone book for “scales – public” or “weighers” to determine other locations for weighing the motorhome.




A brief overview of the procedure for weighing the motorhome is shown below.

### WEIGHING YOUR SINGLE AXLE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

**RV: To Obtain Individual Axle and Gross Vehicle Weights:**

	STEP 1a	STEP 1b	STEP 1c	STEP 1d
				
				
Scale Weight	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.
	(Step 1a = GAW)	(Step 1b = GVW)	(Step 1c = GAW)	(Step 1d)
From Owner's Manual	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.
	GAWR	GVWR	GAWR	Vehicle Weight (GCWR-GVW)

**To Obtain Individual Wheel Position Weights:**

	STEP 2a	STEP 2b	STEP 2c
			
One Side Scale Weight	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.
	(Step 2a)	(Step 2b)	(Step 2c)
Calculate Other Side Weight	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.
	(Step 1a-2a)	(Step 1b-2b)	(Step 1c-2c)
Tire Load (lbs.)	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.
	(See Note #1)	(See Note #1)	(See Notes #1 & 2)
Inflation	_____ psi	_____ psi	_____ psi
	(See Note #1)	(See Note #1)	(See Note #1)

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 motorhome. For example, the attached illustrates the inflation pressures for Michelin tires as a function of the loads per position for a specified speed of the motorhome. You can determine the appropriate inflation pressures for each of the tires on the motorhome, as a function of the loads they are to carry on a trip. Whenever there is a significant change in the loading regimen of the motorhome, it would be wise to re-calculate the load weights of the tires to assure optimal use of the motorhome.

### Frequency of Checking Tire Inflation Pressures

When you have determined the "correct" tire inflation pressures for each of the motorhome tires and inflated the tires under "cold" conditions, meaning the tires haven't been driven for more than one mile, 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, or preferably, every two weeks, 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 tire sidewall and tread flexure associated with traveling. If you 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 you purchase a high-quality,



Figure 16-2: Rear tire

truck-tire air gauge which has an angled dual head. This type of gauge allows you 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



Figure 16-3: Front tire

pointing away from one. Pressure-sealing valve caps should always be used to protect the valve



## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

stems and prevent air from escaping from the valve stems.

### **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 (Power Glide) and its literature in the Owner’s Information Package for particulars on maintaining proper wheel alignment.

### **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.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

# INTERIOR CARE

## NOTICE

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 motorhome wherein a vacuum hose can be connected and the necessary vacuuming performed, as desired.

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.

To connect the cleaning hose, raise the wall remote inlet valve door and align hose end coupling with slots on each side of intake opening. Firmly push into intake opening. Make sure hose end coupling is connected and is locked in place. To disconnect the hose, simply push in the slots on each side of the hose coupling and pull hose end straight out.

**NOTE:** The vacuum cleaner hose must be plugged into outlet to activate the vacuum motor.

To start the vacuum cleaner:

1. Lift inlet valve cover on the wall.
2. Insert the hose cuff with a twist and push. The vacuum cleaner will start automatically.
3. To remove, turn hose in either direction while pulling hose towards you.

To change the dust bag you will need to open the door on the vacuum cleaner by pushing the latch upward and remove the door completely. Remove the full bag and discard. Next, locate the pipe inside the vacuum chamber. Holding the new bag's cardboard collar at approximately a 45-degree

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE



### WARNING

This appliance has a THERMAL PROTECTOR built in the motor to prevent overheating. If motor will not operate or shuts down while in operation wait 30 minutes; it will reset automatically. Turn unit off while it resets. If the motor does not come on, or Thermal Protector trips off again after a short period, service may be needed. A qualified service technician should perform service.

angle, insert the cardboard part of the bag against the upper back of the vacuum cleaner chamber behind the pipe. Lift the front of the collar over the pipe as far as possible. When closing the door, tuck in the left and right corners of the bag so the door is properly sealed and the latch clicks into place.

The vacuum cleaning system comes with an array of attachments that can be connected to the hose ends for extensive cleaning purposes. Make sure they are firmly pushed in and twist to hold in place.

For further instructions to change the dust bag, use the attachments, and proper cleaning technique, refer to the specific Owner's Manual located in your motorhome.

## FABRICS



Figure 16-4: Furniture fabrics

The fabrics used in this Tiffin motorhome 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 and upholstery cleaner.


Spills, spots, or stains should be treated as soon as possible

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

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 are not covered by Tiffin Motorhomes Limited Warranty.



Figure 16-5: Bedroom fabrics

**WARNING**

When cleaning the upholstery and fabric of the motorhome, 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 & 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 cleaned.

## DASHBOARD

To keep the motorhome dashboard in like-new condition, regularly follow these guidelines:

### DO:

- Dust and clean the dashboard with a soft, damp cloth or chamois, wiping the service gently.
- Use a mild detergent and lukewarm water.
- After washing and rinsing the dashboard, dry it by blotting with a damp cloth or chamois.



## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

### DO NOT:

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



Figure 16-6: Kitchen cabinetry

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.

To remove chocolate, grease, juice, or wine, use warm water and any off-the-shelf abrasive cleaner.

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 TiffinMotorhomes 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.

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 motorhome. Although solidsurfacing is repaired easily, certain steps should be taken to protect it.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE



Figure 16-7: Kitchen countertops

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 metallic 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. Polishing those fixtures with a soft cloth will also enhance their appearance. Do not use cleaners that contain harsh or abrasive chemicals. Alcohol or other similar solvents should never be used.

## DETECTORS

The CO/LP gas detectors are self-contained and DO NOT require any maintenance other than normal cleaning and periodic testing. The smoke detector installed in the motorhome is a nine-volt, battery-operated detector. The CO/LP gas detector is wired directly to the house batteries.

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



Figure 16-8: Smoke detector

An inexpensive battery tester would be a good investment to make. This tester would allow checking of the batteries in the various alarms, any flashlights used in the motorhome, and batteries in other appliances which may be in the motorhome during travels.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

# CONDENSATION

## NOTICE

Since surface condensation within the motorhome 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 motorhome 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 motorhome, 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

## NOTICE

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.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

# NOTICE

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 and carbon monoxide/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.
- 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 Pro tectant.
- 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.
- For the optional washer/dryer, inspect the water hoses (both the hot and cold supply lines) to note any bulges, kinks, cuts, wear, or leaks. Especially note the hot-water hose, as this tends to degrade faster than the cold-water hose. Replace if hose feels “soft” or “spongy.”

### 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.



## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

### 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 freshwater tank. Also drain the water filter. For the holding tank(s), open the gate valve(s) to drain the tanks. Turn off water heater before draining to prevent burning element out. (NOTE: **This procedure is to be performed only at a waste water 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 red-handled valve to drain the tank; then close the valve. Remove the filter cartridge from the water filter and store it in a clean environment. Empty any excess water from the filter housing and replace the housing.
2. Turn the by-pass valve located in the exterior sanitation compartment to the “by-pass” position to prevent filling the water heater tank with antifreeze.
3. Disconnect the inlet connection to the water pump located in the sanitary service compartment under the motorhome. 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 motorhome also has an exterior shower; therefore, this system must be winterized, as well.

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

If the motorhome is equipped with an optional ice maker, the following additional steps should be taken:

### **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.
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” 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.

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

If the motorhome is equipped with an optional ice maker, the following additional steps should be taken:

### **Whirlpool Residential Refrigerator Ice Maker (optional)**

1. Unplug refrigerator or disconnect power.
2. Locate the water supply shut off valve and turn off the water supply.
3. Disconnect the water supply line at the refrigerator and drain supply line completely.
4. Locate ice maker fill tube at the rear of the refrigerator and follow the water line down to the water valve.
5. Remove any covers if necessary.
6. Disconnect water line from water valve and drain water from line and valve. Use a small pan to catch water.
7. Remove water filter cartridge (if applicable.) NOTE: Reinstall a new water filter cartridge when refrigerator is put back into service.

## **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.
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 in the bypass mode.
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 bypass valve. Open the freshwater tank supply valve from the pump and the icemaker valve.
5. Reinstall the (optional) water filter. Fill the water heater and hot water lines before turning the water heater on.
6. Be sure to close the fresh water tank drain valves to allow the tank to fill.

# *Phaeton*

## **MAINTENANCE & DATA CHARTS**

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Chapter

**17**

**MAINTENANCE & DATA SHEET**

**RV OWNER'S DATA SHEET**

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

Phaeton: Year: _____ Model # _____ Tiffin Serial # _____			
Appliance	Brand	Model No.	Serial No.
Refrigerator			
Water heater			
Microwave			
Inverter/Converter			
Television, Front			
Back up monitor			
Stereo/CD			
DVD home theater			
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.



**MAINTENANCE & DATA SHEET**

**RV OWNER'S MAINTENANCE RECORD**

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

Phaeton: Year: _____ Model # _____ Tiffin Serial # _____			
Date/Mileage	Work Performed	Performed by	Cost (\$)

**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.

**MAINTENANCE & DATA SHEET**

**RV OWNER'S MAINTENANCE RECORD**

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

Phaeton: Year: _____ Model # _____ Tiffin Serial # _____			
Date/Mileage	Work Performed	Performed by	Cost (\$)

**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.





**MAINTENANCE & DATA SHEET**

**RV OWNER'S MAINTENANCE RECORD**

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

Phaeton: Year: _____ Model # _____ Tiffin Serial # _____			
Date/Mileage	Work Performed	Performed by	Cost (\$)

**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.









# TIFFIN

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