

# Caravan Council of Australia

## Evaluation, Comparison, Contract & Inspection

### Information for when considering the purchase of a new Motorhome or Camper-Van:

You are making a *major* investment... Make sure you do *not* finish up with any regrets.

There are highly-professional, highly-respected motorhome and camper-van manufacturers and dealers, who build and sell fully-compliant, high-quality motorhomes and camper-vans.

There are also some people and products that are *not* of the same calibre.

Do *not* be pushed! Do *not* assume anything! Take your time to be *sure* you understand fully!

If in doubt, or if a sixth-sense tells you to... walk away.

Ensure you have at least a basic understanding of the *Australian Consumer Law*.

Remember: Sales personnel are trained to *sell*.

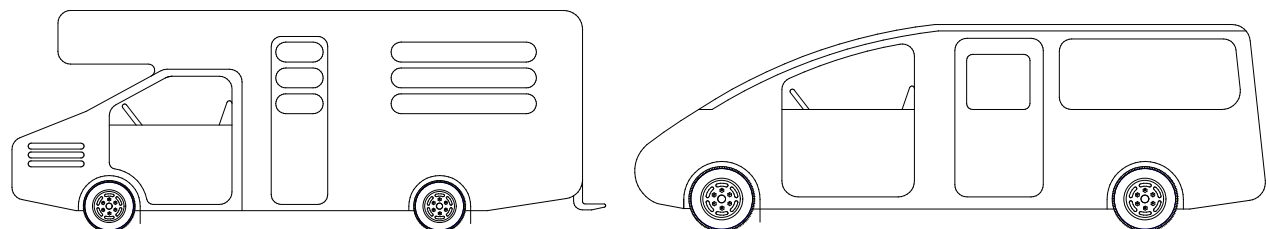
Do *not* rush. Take a respected independent person - who is experienced, especially with legal and technical requirements, in motorhomes - with you. They will be level-headed, with no emotional involvement in your new *pride-and-joy*, and able to ensure you make sound evaluations and decisions.

Confirm *all* items in the *Sales Contract* thoroughly. Do *not* accept anything that is *not* as you want.

Expect - *Demand* - the Dealer to take 4 - 6 hours to fully inspect, test and explain all items.

### This document has 4 Parts... In Order:

- 1: **Evaluation** - Considerations when Purchasing a new Motorhome (or Camper-Van)  
*Requirements & Preferences* for a New Motorhome
- 2: **Comparison** of Various Makes & Models (Use one sheet for each Motorhome)  
Judge with your *Requirements & Preferences* with Inspected Motorhome s
- 3: **Contract** - Items that *MUST* be included in the Sales Contract
- 4: **Pre-Delivery Inspection** - Items that *MUST* be *Inspected & Accepted* before taking Delivery



Your Details: Name: .....  
Address: .....  
Tel: ..... email: .....

Requirements & Preferences for a New Motorhome (or Camper-Van):

What is your Budget: \$ .....

When do you need it: .....

Number of Sleeping Berths: .....

Required Load-carrying Capacity (kg): ..... (LLC = GVM Rating – Tare Mass)

(Do you really need to carry this much equipment and water??? Remember, water is included in the "Load", and not the "Tare Mass".)

Maximum Overall Dimensions (m): Length: ..... Width: ..... Height: .....

Styling: .....

Layout Details: Dimensioned drawing showing location of: Beds; Table; Chairs/Benches;

Kitchen; all appliances, storage facilities, and fitments: .....

Features: Shower; Toilet; Other: .....

Appliances: Stove; Refrigerator; Microwave; Hot-water system; TV/Audio; Air-conditioner; Other:

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Protection: Fire extinguisher; Alarms - Smoke-detector; CO-detector; Burglar; GPS: .....

Awnings: Brand; material; size: .....

Colours: External; Internal (walls, ceiling & timber); Curtains; Upholstery: .....

Water Tanks: Number: Capacities: Location: Clearance & Protection: .....

LPG Cylinders: Number: Capacities: Location: .....

Batteries: Number: Type: Size: Capacity: Location: .....

Solar Panels & Controller: .....

Other Specific Requirements & Preferences: .....

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Compare with your Requirements & Preferences

Use one sheet for each Motorhome

Make: .....

Model: .....

Dealer: .....  
.....

Price: \$ ..... Loan Details (if you require a loan): .....

Tare Mass: ..... kg GVM Rating: ..... kg GCM Rating: ..... kg

Load-Carrying Capacity: ..... kg

Overall Length: ..... m Width: ..... m Height: ..... m

Number of Sleeping Berths: .....

Wheels: Brand: Model: Material: Size Details: .....

Tyres: Brand: Model: Size Details: .....

Water Tanks: Number, Capacities, Location: .....

LPG Cylinders: Number, Capacities: Location: .....

Styling: Rating: 1 (Low) to 10 (High) .....

Layout: Rating: 1 (Low) to 10 (High) .....

Features: Shower: YES / NO Toilet: YES / NO Other: .....

Appliances: Stove; refrigerator; microwave; hot-water system; TV/Audio; air-conditioner; other:  
.....  
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Protection: Fire extinguisher: YES / NO Smoke-detector/alarm: YES / NO  
CO-detector/alarm: YES / NO Burglar alarm: YES / NO

Awning: YES / NO Brand: ..... Material: ..... Size: .....

Colours: External; Internal (walls, ceiling & timber); Curtains; Upholstery: .....

Batteries: YES NO Number: ..... Type: ..... Size: .....

Capacity: ..... Location: .....

Solar Panels & Controller: YES / NO Capacity: .....

Battery Charger: YES / NO Details: .....

Other Equipment & Appliances Fitted: .....  
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**Component Rating:** 1 (Poor) to 10 (Excellent)

Size: .....

Mechanical Design: .....

Construction: .....

Styling: .....

Internal Layout: .....

Features: .....

Appliances: .....

Accessories: .....

Colours: .....

“X Factor”:

Trust in Dealer: .....

Price: .....

**Overall Rating:** .....

## Contract - Items that *MUST* be included in the Sales Contract Part 3 of 4

Product warranties *must now* include, word for word, the following statement:

"Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure."

Ensure all requirements are *clearly stated in writing* and signed by yourself and the Dealer.

**Your Details:** Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... email: .....

**Dealer Details:** Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... email: .....

Brand: ..... Model: .....

Compliance Approval No: ..... Variant No: .....

Overall Dimensions: Length: ..... Width: ..... Height: .....

Load-Carrying Capacity: ..... kg (LCC = GVM Rating – Tare Mass)

Tare Mass: ..... GVM Rating: ..... GCM Rating: .....

Front Axle Rating: ..... Rear Axle Rating: .....

Wheels: Brand: ..... Model: ..... Material: .....

Size Details: ..... Off-set: ..... Approval Details: .....

Tyres: Brand: ..... Model: ..... Size Details: .....

Approval Details: .....

Recommended Tyre Pressure at Tare Mass: .....

Recommended Tyre Pressure when fully loaded: .....

Water Tanks: Number; Capacities; Location; Clearance & Protection: .....

LPG Cylinders: Number; Capacities; Location; Securing & Protection; Approval Details; Date: .....

Lines & Wiring: Supported and protected; All joins visible; Neatly installed: .....

Colours: External: ..... Internal (walls, ceiling & timber): .....

Curtains: ..... Upholstery: .....

Layout Details: Dimensioned drawing of all appliances, storage facilities, and fitments: .....

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Features: Sleeping berths: ..... Shower: ..... Toilet: ..... Other: .....

Appliances: Stove: ..... Refrigerator: ..... Microwave: .....

Hot-water system: ..... TV/Audio: ..... Air-conditioner: .....

Other: .....

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Appliances Details: Make; Model; Serial No.; Colour; etc. (To be itemised) .....

Protection: Fire extinguisher: ..... Smoke-detector/alarm: .....

CO-detector/alarm: ..... Burglar alarm: .....

Awnings: Brand: ..... Material: ..... Size: .....

Batteries: Number: ..... Type: ..... Size: ..... Capacity: ..... Location: .....

Solar Panels & Controller: .....

Battery Charger: .....

Other Specific Requirements: .....

RCD & Circuit-breaker: .....

Does the manufacturer have a recognised professional *Quality Assurance* program in place: .....

Water-leakage test to be conducted. ....

Acceptance *must* be declined if the handling is *not* considered satisfactory.

- Certificates: Licensed Gas-fitter  
Licensed Electrician  
Licensed Plumber  
Weigh-bridge (Certified)

Declaration: **“The vehicle fully complies with all legal requirements”.**

Test-drive a similar vehicle to best ensure you will feel safe and comfortable in your new vehicle!

### Items that **MUST** be Inspected - & Accepted - before taking Delivery:

You are making a *major* investment... Make sure you do *not* finish up with any regrets.

Expect - *Demand* - the Dealer to take 4 - 6 hours to fully inspect, test and explain all items.

Do *not* be pushed! Do *not* assume anything! Take your time to be *sure* you understand fully!

Ensure you have at least a basic understanding of the *Australian Consumer Law*.

The Dealer has significant "*Duty of Care*" responsibilities.

The motorhome, or camper-van, *must* be of "*Acceptable Quality*" and "*Fit For Purchase*".

Confirm *all* items in the *Contract* thoroughly. Do *not* accept anything that is not as you want.

Ensure professional detailed *Handbooks* are provided for all appliances and systems.

The Dealer *must* provide you with "all information that you may reasonably be expected to know".

Test *all* appliances and systems properly... on gas, 230 V, and 12 V dc. Don't rush!

Allow sufficient time to ensure everything works correctly.

Inspect wiring size (gauge) and type of connectors.

Check dc voltage available at appliances.

Inspect *all* exterior and interior surfaces for damage or imperfections.

Inspect *underneath*, for damage or unprofessional wiring and tubing/hoses.

Inspect all doors for correct and neat fitment, and operation of latches and locks.

Check all windows.

Inspect all upholstery, fly-screens and soft surfaces for any damage.

Check the awning for correct and easy operation.

Fill the water tank(s) using a hose at full tap pressure. Check all lines and connections for leaks.

Check water pumps for correct operation.

Flush the toilet a few times. Is the cassette easy to remove and install?

Conduct a reasonable water-leakage test with a hose, to simulate a heavy rain-fall on the roof and windows, and inspect inside for any water leaks. Declined acceptance if there are leaks.

Check all lamps for correct operation.

Does the jack work correctly?

Ensure you have insurance for the new purchase.

With the Dealer on board, test-drive the vehicle at reasonable speeds on various roads, to ensure handling and stability seem OK.

Ensure the brakes are working correctly.  
Thoroughly inspect the *Sales Contract* and other documentation supplied by the Dealer.  
If you have any reservations on any item, do *not* sign anything, but have a solicitor inspect the document. Decline acceptance if this is refused by the Dealer.

Ensure you understand all conditions regarding operating your purchase, especially those relating to servicing and maintenance.

Are there any special limitations on what road surfaces you can drive on, or operate appliances for continuous periods, etc.? If so, ensure they are in writing.



## ***Caravan Council of Australia***

[www.caravancouncil.com.au](http://www.caravancouncil.com.au)

***“Enhancing the Image of the Australian RV industry”***

