

CHECKLIST FOR INSPECTING STRUCTURAL DEFECTS IN YOUR RV

Use this checklist to carefully inspect your RV for common structural defects. Document any issues you find with photographs and notes to support your repair requests or legal claims.

1. EXTERIOR INSPECTION:

- Cracks or Gaps in the Walls and Frame:
- Inspect around the slide-outs (particularly near the corners).
- Check for visible cracks in the sidewalls or at the attachment points.
- Look for any gaps between panels or seams that have shifted.
- Roof Condition:
- Examine the roof for cracks, leaks, or soft spots.
- Check around roof attachments like antennas, vents, or air conditioning units for gaps or wear.
- Doors and Windows:
- Check for gaps around windows and doors.
- Ensure that doors and windows open and close smoothly without sticking or misalignment.
- Inspect seals and caulking for wear or damage.

2. HITCH AND FRAME INSPECTION:

- Fifth-Wheel Hitch (If Applicable):
- Check for cracks or bending in the hitch area.

- Look for loose bolts or any unusual twisting of the frame around the hitch.

UNDERBELLY AND FRAME:

- Inspect the undercarriage for any bent or damaged frame components.
- Look for rust or corrosion on the frame or support structures.
- Check the axles and suspension for any shifting or damage.

3. SLIDE-OUTS:

- Seals and Alignment:
- Inspect the slide-out seals for cracks, wear, or gaps.
- Ensure the slide-out opens and closes without sagging or misalignment.
- Wall and Floor Condition:
- Check the inside walls and floors around the slide-out for cracks, bowing, or separation.
- Look for any soft spots on the floor near the slide-out mechanism.

INTERIOR INSPECTION:

- Ceiling and Walls:
- Look for cracks in the interior walls, particularly around doors and windows.
- Inspect the ceiling for water damage or separation at the seams.
- Check for bubbling, peeling, or bowing in the walls and ceiling.

- Cabinets and Storage Areas:
- Ensure that cabinets are properly aligned and not separating from the walls.
- Check inside cabinets and storage areas for any leaks or structural weaknesses.

OVERALL STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY:

- Flexing or Movement:
- While towing, note any unusual flexing or creaking that may indicate frame issues.
- Observe whether cracks or gaps widen or close when the RV is hooked up to a vehicle or placed on leveling jacks.
- Leveling and Stabilization:
- Ensure that the RV remains level when parked and doesn't shift or sway on its leveling system.
- Look for structural movement in the walls or floor while stabilizers are deployed.

DOCUMENT YOUR FINDINGS:

- Take clear photos of all defects and label them by area.
- Keep a log of any issues, including the date discovered and their location on the RV.
- Note any changes in the defects over time, such as cracks expanding or new issues appearing.

This checklist is designed to help you thoroughly document any structural defects you encounter. The more detailed your inspection and documentation, the stronger your case for repairs or legal claims.