

RV Maintenance Made Easy: Absorption Refrigerator



How to Upkeep Your RV's Absorption Refrigerator

Here are a few troubleshooting and maintenance tips to help increase the longevity and efficiency of your RV's absorption fridge.

RV Absorption Fridge Maintenance and Troubleshooting Tips

Since the RV absorption refrigerator is one of the priciest appliances in your RV, you'll want to make sure it stays in top condition. Here are a few tasks that you can do to keep it running smoothly.

Preventative Maintenance

- The absorption style refrigerator relies on air flow on the back side of the unit, as well as proper ventilation. Check the lower exterior area once per month and keep it free of debris, spiderwebs, and insects. Confirm that the rooftop vent is not being blocked by leaves or bird's nests that would restrict the airflow.
- Keeping the RV level will ensure proper cooling and prevent damage to the unit.
- When not in use, power down the refrigerator, empty its contents, and keep the doors cracked to air it out.

Troubleshooting

- Check the rubber door seals for both the freezer and refrigerator to ensure that there aren't any gaps that would allow warm air to get inside.
- The absorption style refrigerator doesn't have a fan to circulate air, so avoid overpacking it. Consider using a small, battery-powered fan to distribute cool air throughout the interior of the fridge.
- If the refrigerator isn't operating on one or all of its power sources, start with the basics: Are you plugged into shore power? Is the breaker turned on at the pedestal? Is the battery charged? Is there propane in your tanks and are the valves open? Next, take a look at the breaker panel and fuses to see if any are tripped or blown.
- For your safety, call a certified RV technician when it comes to working on the 120-volt electrical or propane features of the refrigerator.