

Lloyds Caravan & Lodge Sales

CUSTOMER CARE CENTRE



LLOYDS CARAVAN
& LODGE SALES

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Welcome to your
new holiday home....

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

If your caravan holiday home is to be left unattended for any period of time, it is recommended that you disconnect or turn off all the services to avoid any problems i.e.: water; gas and electrics. (Turn off water at stop tap when you go home)

N.B. Caravans located near the coast will need constant routine maintenance to deter salt corrosion to metal fittings, as this is not covered under warranty

(The following information has been supplied by kind permission of the Atlas Caravan Company Ltd)

PVCU Doors & Windows

- Stains on the framework may be removable using a domestic, non-abrasive cream cleaner. However, these should not be used to excess as they may affect the gloss finish, use an appropriate PVCU cleaner.
- Foiled surfaces (wood grain finishes) should be cleaned regularly with a damp cloth. If necessary a mild solution of detergent/soap in lukewarm water can be used. The veneer is a finished product and consequently should not have any additional enhancements made to it, for example do not varnish the veneer

On no account should any polishes, abrasive or solvent-based cleaners be used, as some of these may affect the finish. Most organic solvents affect PVC and must not be used for cleaning. A proprietary glass cleaner may be used if necessary.

Periodically:-

- Clean the gaskets and framework with a mild solution of detergent and water to maintain the appearance
- Check all drainage channels and remove any obstructions, vacuum sand and dust
- Check and clean all seals and gaskets and repair/replace any defects, spray with silicone
- Check all moving parts and clean/repair/replace any defects, spray with silicone/white grease where needed

Exterior Panels

- The aluminium exterior of your holiday home is pre-painted, oven dried aluminium sheet and is very easy to keep clean. It is recommended that it is only washed down with plenty of clean water and a very mild detergent. An occasional polish with a good quality wax will help obtain a high gloss finish. Under no circumstances should an abrasive or harsh cleaner be used.
- Stubborn marks such as bird soiling, grease, etc. can be removed by rubbing with a soft cloth dampened with white spirit, protective gloves should be worn when using solvents.

Gutters

- Check that leaves and debris do not cause blockage as this can cause overflowing into roof space and cause internal damage.

Curtains & Upholstery

- The upholstery may be cleaned with a proprietary cleaner or, in an emergency, with a very slightly dampened cloth.
- Curtains are to be dry cleaned only unless there are washing instructions sewn to the inside of the curtain.

Carpet

- Any proprietary carpet cleaner may be used, but it is recommended that you do not use excessive amounts of water.

Furniture

- Use a damp cloth to remove finger marks, etc. or use an all-purpose spray cleaner. A good quality furniture polish may be used, but not furniture oil or abrasive cleaners.
- It is recommended that cupboard catches, stays, sliding bolts and hinges are kept clean and lightly oiled or smeared with petroleum jelly.

Shower Cubicles and Bathroom Fittings

- Plastics can be cleaned using a very mild detergent in tepid water directly after use, as this will prevent the build up of lime scale. Never use an abrasive or chemical cleaner

NB: It is important not to pour hot water directly into or onto any plastic. Always begin with cold water and add hot to achieve the desired temperature.

Periodically:

- Lubricate the rollers, if applicable, with white petroleum jelly
- Check all drainage channels, if applicable, and remove any obstructions
- Check all seals (silicone and rubber) and repair if necessary
- Check all moving parts and clean/repair/replace any defects

Kitchen

- Use warm, soapy water to clean the vinyl floor covering, rinse and dry thoroughly. Do not use excessive amounts of water as this could seep under the vinyl and cause damage
- The kitchen worktop, sink, drainer and cooking equipment surfaces should only be cleaned with hot soapy water, unless the appliance manufacturer states otherwise in their own literature. Do not use abrasives or wire wool
- The inside of the oven should be cleaned in accordance with the instructions contained in the manufacturer's leaflet
- Never use a sharp instrument directly on the worktops

Ventilators

- Ventilators should be cleaned with a stiff brush (and/or vacuum cleaner) to remove any debris

Chassis (if not fully galvanised)

N.B. In coastal areas, salt in the air will corrode metals, so preventive maintenance will be needed.

Standard painted chassis must be checked for signs of corrosion and periodically painted with appropriate type of paint. Pre galvanised chassis will need the cut edges and welded joints periodically touched up with galvanised spray paint as they will develop rust if not treated especially in coastal areas as salty air will cause corrosion.

2. Winterising Your Caravan

(The following information is supplied by kind permission of ABI UK Ltd)

If your caravan holiday home is to be left empty for long periods of time, particularly during the winter months, it is recommended that you:

- Remove soft furnishings and curtains to protect them from damp. Stand seat cushions up on end to allow air to circulate around them
- Use moisture traps throughout the caravan to absorb any condensation that may occur (DO NOT USE SALT AS THIS EVAPORATES AND CORRODES METAL)
- Ensure all fixed ventilation is not obstructed and that internal doors, wardrobes and cupboard doors are left ajar to allow an uninterrupted flow of air to circulate
- Clean and empty the refrigerator and wedge open the door. Remove all foodstuffs to avoid attracting vermin. Also, remove tinned foods as they may be prone to rust
- Turn off the electricity supply at the main switch box. Turn off the gas supply and if necessary seal the gas cylinder. Remove the hose and regulator and store these inside the van
- Clean the gutters and check the exterior
- Check that all windows and doors are tightly closed, including roof lights, and ensure nothing is trapped in them which may cause a siphoning effect from the exterior
- Ensure that any items loosely stored around or under the caravan holiday home are safely secured
- Conduct a full lubrication Schedule on window and door rubber seals and locking mechanisms
- Carry out a general internal clean of the carpets and work surfaces
- Finally, make sure your caravan holiday home is securely locked and a spare key is left at the site office. Label the key with your site number, model, your home address and telephone number so that you can be contacted if required
- During the period that it is left vacant, if at all possible, return periodically to check its condition

IMPORTANT

It is imperative that the water systems are drained properly to avoid a potential disaster and that it is carried out in a competent manner.

If your home is fitted with hot water central heating, you should note that it is a self-contained pressurised system. It should be maintained regularly by a qualified engineer and the anti-freeze checked prior to any winter vacancy. If you have any doubts, consult your Park Manager for further advice or for direction to a recognised tradesman. In many cases, parks offer a "drain-down and re-connect" facility at a reasonable price.

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

EVERY VISIT

VENTILATE THE CARAVAN TO PREVENT CONDENSATION

Bad ventilation and condensation can cause mould.

- Open windows on arrival whilst unpacking the car to air the caravan.
- Do not dry clothes in caravan as this will cause condensation.
- Leave window open for ventilation whilst cooking.
- Open bathroom window after showering.



Open windows to air the caravan

EVERY 2 MONTHS

OR AS NEEDED DEPENDING ON LOCATION

WINDOWS/DOORS/EXTERNAL LIGHTS

(Prevent salt corrosion / sand / dirt deterioration)

N.B. if left untreated, salt and sand will cause deterioration to window and door furniture.

Clean dust and sand from frames with a soft brush

(old paintbrush is ideal) as sand and dirt will damage rubber seals each time you open and close them.

Vacuum residue from frames.

Wipe with a soft white cloth and mild soap.

(coloured cloths could stain frames)

Do not use abrasive cleaner.

Pay attention to hinges and handles as salt /sand /dirt will build up and act as an abrasive compound each time you open and cause corrosion.

These products are effective against corrosion

(We do not recommend any particular brand)

SILICONE SPRAY

(Will act as a barrier to salty air if used regularly)

- Rubber seals on doors and windows
- Handles and hinges
- External light fittings
- Metal fittings

WHITE GREASE SPRAY

(Will protect locking mechanism from corrosion)

- Door locking mechanism



Clean sand and dust from frames regularly



Clean protect and lubricate all window and door furniture



Silicon spray and white grease spray are available from various stockists



MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

TWICE A YEAR OR MORE FREQUENTLY IF NEEDED

WASH EXTERIOR PANELS

Salt and dirt will be deposited over the exterior panels and depending on the location algae can start to form.

Wash exterior aluminium panels with a proprietary wash and wax solution.

Waxing will enhance the shine and make it easier to wash next time.

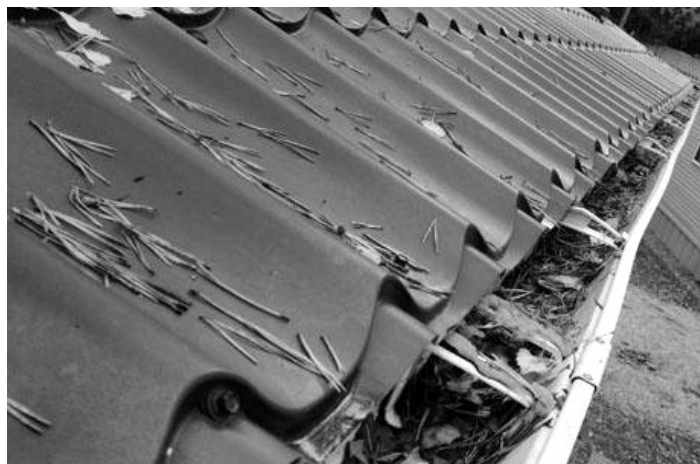


Wash exterior panels to maintain appearance

CLEAR GUTTERS

Regular checking of the gutters on your caravan is advisable, especially if located near or under trees. Leaves and debris can build up and block the flow of water, this can cause water ingress if left.

Be especially careful if using ladders not to damage the exterior panels of your caravan. Step ladders may be a safer option.



Clear gutters regularly

MAINTAIN CHASSIS

Check chassis and touch up where needed

END OF SEASON

YOU NEED TO PREPARE YOUR CARAVAN FOR WINTER

- Deep clean the caravan
- Maintain chassis
- Clear gutters
- Turn off fridge freezer and leave door open
- Arrange plumber to drain water system, turn off stop cock and remove shower valve
- Add anti freeze to toilet pans
- Fit moisture traps
- Stand soft furnishings away from walls
- Remove food items
- Turn off electric and gas
- Check anchors and axle stands
- Remove/secure external loose items



Deep clean caravan



Fit moisture traps



Turn off electric



Drain down water

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

START OF NEW SEASON

PREPARE YOUR CARAVAN.

- Reconnect your caravan after winter drain down (most parks provide drain down and reconnection service) be cautious if there are still any heavy frosts
- Arrange a gas and electric test if needed (check with your park)
- Open all windows to air the caravan throughout
- Check exterior for any maintenance issues or winter storm damage
- Re-grease corner steadies/axle stands
- Check gutters for blockages
- Wash exterior panels
- Carry out cleaning / lubricating of windows and doors (rubber seals)
- Clean any exterior decking / steps
- Check and maintain chassis



Wash exterior



Clean gutters



Clean protect and lubricate all window and door furniture

Enjoy your new season!

Your future upgrade made easy

Whenever you decide, we will be here to help you choose your next exciting new Holiday Home.....

Call and see us !

LC
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Tel 01745 832050