

Class A Motorhome vs Fifth Wheel — Real Costs Over 5 Years

Class A motorhome or fifth wheel — five years of ownership, real money out the door. Let's run the numbers honestly.

Round one — purchase price. Class A diesel pusher, three-hundred to four-hundred thousand. Comparable fifth wheel plus a heavy-duty truck — one-eighty to two-fifty. Fifth wheel wins on entry.

Round two — fuel. Class A diesel pusher, six to eight miles per gallon, fifty-gallon tank. Fifth wheel — your truck does ten to twelve unloaded, six to eight towing. Roughly the same per mile. Tie.

Round three — maintenance. Class A has a chassis, an engine, a generator, AND a house. Three things that break. Fifth wheel is just a house — but the truck has its own issues. Class A is more expensive when it breaks. Fifth wheel ties on frequency.

Round four — depreciation. Class A loses thirty percent driving off the lot. Fifth wheel loses twenty. Both bleed value year one. Fifth wheel bleeds less.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Verdict — fifth wheel wins on total cost. Class A wins on convenience. Comment what you'd buy with three-hundred grand. Next Saturday: new versus used.