

Slide Seal Inspection — Catch Leaks Before They Start

Slide-out leaks destroy fifth wheels. Most of them start at this rubber strip right here. Five-minute inspection. Catches it before it costs you.

Top seal — the bulb seal. Squeeze it. Should feel firm, full of air. If it's flat, cracked, or compressed flat, water's getting in. Replacement seal — sixty bucks. Replacement floor — six thousand.

Side seals — the wiper seals. Run your hand down. Any rips, any pieces missing, any places where it's not making contact with the slide wall — water's getting in.

Bottom — the slide-floor seal. Look for daylight underneath when the slide is in. Should be flush.

Quarterly — clean the seals, hit them with slide-out treatment. Keeps the rubber pliable. Eight dollars a bottle.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Five minutes. Once a month. Save yourself the floor replacement. Tomorrow we compare new versus used RVs. Follow.