RV WINTERIZATION CHECKLIST

Imagine That DIY | https://www.youtube.com/@ImagineThatDIY

Keep It Simple, Silly! | Follow along with the 33-minute video.
Check each item only when completed. Timestamps are approximate. Follow manufacturer-approved procedures and safety limits.

Before You Begin (00:00)

☐ Identify your RV type and equipment; consult the RV and appliance owner manuals.

☐ Confirm winterization methods and restrictions for each installed component.

Tools & Supplies (00:55)

☐ Gather pink, non-toxic RV/marine antifreeze approved for potable-water systems.

☐ Gather RV winterizing hand pump, hoses and compatible fittings for exterior connections.

☐ Have screwdriver, pliers, adjustable wrench, socket set, bucket, towels, gloves and safety glasses.

☐ Optional: regulated air compressor, RV blowout adapter, exterior cleaners, sealant, tire covers, pest-exclusion materials and humidity monitor.

☐ If applicable, have correct water-heater anode socket (GT7: 1-1/16 inch), approved thread sealant, fuel stabilizer and battery maintainer.

Drain Freshwater System (02:40)

☐ Disconnect city-water hose and switch OFF onboard water pump.

☐ Turn OFF water-heater propane/electric heating functions; let water cool.

☐ Open a hot and cold faucet to relieve pressure.

☐ Locate and open fresh-tank drain; empty tank.

☐ Locate and open hot and cold low-point drains; allow lines to drain.

☐ Identify whole-house and inline water filters; remove/bypass as their manufacturers require.

☐ Check refrigerator filter requirements separately; removal alone does not winterize dispenser/ice makers.

Water Heater (04:55)

☐ Identify tank-style versus tankless heater and consult its exact manual.

☐ Confirm heater is OFF, cool and depressurized before opening drain.

☐ Drain tank using approved drain plug/anode procedure; catch water safely.

☐ Inspect anode rod if equipped; replace if badly depleted (narration notes approximately 75% material loss).

☐ Check for sediment and flush tank if recommended.

☐ Reinstall anode with approved thread treatment if required, or leave drain open if manual directs.

☐ Find water-heater bypass; on GT7 access three valves through approximately 4-inch underbelly cap.

☐ For GT7 three-valve bypass: close cold inlet, close hot outlet, open bypass valve.

☐ Do not operate an empty tank-style water heater.

Compressed-Air Blowout (Optional) (08:45)

☐ Check RV and component pressure limits; use a regulator, never direct unregulated compressor air.

☐ GT7 demonstration uses about 30 PSI, NOT a universal RV setting.

☐ Verify tank drained, heater OFF/drained/bypassed, pump OFF and low-point drains closed.

☐ Connect blowout adapter at city-water inlet; set approved regulator pressure.

☐ Open one faucet outlet before applying air; work cold then hot at each sink and shower.

☐ Operate outdoor shower, separate sprayers and toilet flush valve as appropriate.

☐ Keep an outlet open while supplying air; avoid prolonged continuous airflow.

☐ Follow separate procedures for appliance branches, ice makers and washer.

☐ Disconnect compressor and adapter after blowout; do not assume all trapped water is removed.

Outside Water Connections (11:40)

☐ Check city-water inlet for remaining water per manufacturer instructions.
☐ Drain fresh tank and protect gravity or pressurized tank-fill connection as appropriate.
☐ If approved, use a hand pump to introduce RV antifreeze into applicable exterior connection.
☐ Protect black-tank flush using its separate manufacturer-approved procedure.
☐ NEVER reuse drinking-water hoses, pump or fittings on black-tank flush.
☐ Drain or protect outside shower, spray ports and outdoor-kitchen plumbing.

Add Pink RV Antifreeze (13:30)

☐ Use only non-toxic RV/marine potable-water antifreeze; never automotive antifreeze.
☐ Verify water heater remains bypassed.
☐ For built-in suction system, insert suction hose in antifreeze jug.
☐ On GT7, turn WHITE selector valve near pump from fresh tank to winterization hose.
☐ If no built-in system, use approved suction kit or temporary tank-line connection.
☐ Turn ON water pump; distribute antifreeze through fixtures as narrated.
☐ Check both hot and cold fixtures and any outside plumbing branches.
☐ Protect toilet and drain/trap locations as covered in narration; verify pink antifreeze reaches required points.

Refrigerator Water System (17:40)

☐ Check exact refrigerator manual and any dedicated water shutoff valve.
☐ GT7 example: LG LFXC22526S/01, water dispenser plus TWO ice makers.
☐ Remove refrigerator filter or install required bypass; GT7 LG dispenser works with filter removed.
☐ Only if approved by manufacturer, dispense until pink antifreeze reaches water outlet.
☐ Door ice maker: remove bin, place towel, use approved test-button cycle (narration: ~3 seconds).
☐ Freezer ice maker: access bin/test button and run approved cycle (narration: ~3-5 seconds).
☐ Do NOT repeatedly trigger test cycles; allow each cycle to finish and verify protection by approved method.
☐ Discard ice/water produced during winterization.
☐ Locate refrigerator circuit breaker; GT7 panel is in bedroom.
☐ Switch correct refrigerator breaker OFF; check for other power sources or shutdown requirements.
☐ Clean and dry refrigerator; leave doors slightly open if recommended.
☐ At recommissioning, flush/sanitize water lines before dispensing or making ice.

Washing Machine (21:35)

☐ Check the exact washer manual; main-line winterization alone is insufficient.
☐ GT7 Splendide ARWXF129W: ensure pink antifreeze at BOTH hot and cold feeds and pump ON.
☐ With washer OFF select Cycle 3 (Permanent Press); turn ON, select WARM, press Start.
☐ Allow fill until drum begins turning (approximately 1-2 minutes).
☐ Turn OFF; select B Spin; turn ON, press Start, drain antifreeze fully; turn OFF.
☐ Use different procedure for different washer models.

Water Pump Shutdown & Valve Reset (23:15)

☐ Confirm all fixtures and appliances requiring winterization have been protected.
☐ Turn OFF freshwater pump at RV control panel.
☐ Return GT7 WHITE winterization selector valve to normal freshwater-tank position.
☐ If temporary suction hose was installed, reconnect original tank plumbing securely.

☐ Remove, drain and stow antifreeze suction hose; check pump fittings for leaks.
☐ Do not restart pump or flush antifreeze from protected lines during storage.

Final Storage Preparation (24:35)

☐ Turn OFF propane appliances, furnace and water heater.
☐ If closing propane supply for storage, follow RV instructions; never blow air or antifreeze into propane lines.
☐ Disconnect and store fresh-water and sewer hoses; secure drains, panels and utility doors.
☐ Inspect roof, windows and exterior seals for damage or potential leaks.
☐ Park on suitable surface; use appropriate load-rated pads if needed.
☐ Check cold tire inflation based on actual RV loading; consider UV tire covers and tire-maker storage advice.
☐ Remove food and pest attractants; confirm refrigerator clean/dry and appliances OFF.
☐ Follow slide-room manufacturer storage recommendations.

Battery Winter Storage (26:40)

☐ Identify house batteries and motorhome chassis battery if equipped.
☐ If on shore power, verify actual charging voltage with battery monitor or multimeter.
☐ Do not assume shore power maintains chassis battery; test it separately.
☐ Verify charging system settings for flooded lead-acid, AGM or lithium battery type.
☐ If no shore power, follow battery-specific isolation, removal and recharge schedule.
☐ Inspect for corrosion/damage and monitor charge during storage.
☐ GT7 example uses Magnum inverter/charger; check house charging, coach disconnect and chassis battery separately.

Fuel System & Generator (Motorhomes) (29:20)

☐ Follow engine-maker guidance for fuel level, storage period and expansion allowance.
☐ For gasoline engine, use compatible fuel stabilizer if recommended.
☐ For diesel, evaluate winter-grade fuel, anti-gel or other approved treatment based on climate.
☐ Follow instructions for treatment and fuel circulation.
☐ Follow generator-specific fuel, exercise-under-load and long-term storage directions.
☐ Never run engine or generator in an enclosed area where exhaust can accumulate.

Rodent Prevention (30:50)

☐ Inspect underside and utility penetrations for entry gaps.
☐ Seal gaps using suitable rodent-resistant materials without blocking required ventilation/exhaust.
☐ Optional electronic deterrents are supplemental, not a replacement for sealing openings.
☐ Remove food, crumbs and pet food; periodically inspect for rodent activity.
☐ Check batteries in battery-powered deterrents during storage.

Final Walk-Through (31:55)

☐ Verify plumbing and appliances are protected and all shutdown steps complete.
☐ Record storage date and plan periodic checks of batteries, seals, tires and pests.