



## RVHaulers Presentation

Repair, Convert and Maintain your Own RVHauler

My Personal Approach

There are other (perhaps cheaper) ways to do this, but I try to achieve

- Safety
- Reliability
- Longevity

I am assuming:

- You have a place to work
- You know this is not a weekend job, nor a week-long job
- You have done the research into licensing and registration

### 1. Safety

- a. Big Stuff = Big Owies
- b. Fingers and Eyes Don't Grow Back
- c. I am Not Teaching Safety Today

### 2. Trades to Locate / Unique Parts Orders

- a. Volvo
- b. Henry and Davena Szmyt
- c. Mobile Tire and Balancing
- d. Driveshaft Straightening Balancing and Mods
- e. Truck Parts (non Volvo)
- f. Wheel Polish
- g. Paint and Sandblasting
- h. Detailing inside and out
- i. Wheel Alignment and/or Tire Supply
- j. Steel Supply and Welding
- k. Wreckers / Parts Disposal
- l. Upholstery
- m. Glass Shop (Mobile)
- n. Brake Controller Suppliers and Ramps

### 3. Gotchas

- a. It takes two, and shops are often closed evenings.
- b. Tools – Not Small, Not Cheap – Remember Metric
- c. Moving Bed, Drom, Hitch – need a truck and flat deck trailer



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- d. Shipping and Receiving department – always open at your home?
  - e. How long will this take? Trades – 12 AT LEAST – two trips each = approx. 30 days in which you are just going back and forth, but you aren't working yet! Hands-on working 10 days. Waiting for other trades – 25 days ( not including bed work ).
  - f. Test, and test and test. Don't go on a holiday without testing.
  - g. Aren't going to get rich selling parts, sorry.
  - h. You will miss something – save some budget \$ for fixes in the future.
4. Options
- a. David Dixon Headlights – do it
  - b. Battery Minder, and or shutoffs
  - c. Marine Radios
  - d. Seating
  - e. Generators
  - f. Cameras
  - g. Chrome
  - h. Floor Mats
  - i. Inverters
  - j. Bumpers
  - k. Tire Pressure Monitoring
  - l. Microwave
  - m. Porta-Pottie
  - n. Decals
  - o. Spare Parts to Always Carry
5. Conversion
- a. Place to work – longer than you expect
  - b. Tools (yes yes yes).
    - i. Big Jacks
    - ii. Air tools
    - iii. New lines
    - iv. Brake cleaner
    - v. Frame Stands
    - vi. Engine hoist – and flat floor
    - vii. Torch
    - viii. Welder
    - ix. Grinders
    - x. Charger (key is on quite a bit)
    - xi. All new bolts, tire warps, hoses, fittings
  - c. Safety Equipment – all the time, for all guests too.
  - d.
6. Hitches
- a. ET SR only



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- b. Don't forget the bumper pull
  - c. Need a forklift or engine hoist
7. Repairs
  - a. From your inspections – you know what has to be repaired.
8. Maintenance
  - a. From your research with previous owner – this list should be detailed already
  - b. Invest in Synthetics, air, oil, fuel, cab, coolant
9. Test
  - a. Test drive – recommend weight on truck – cement “lego” blocks
  - b. Test hooked up to trailer
  - c. Commercial DOT inspection
  - d. Back to Volvo for computer checks
10. Bed and Drom
  - a. Don't need bed on day one. Test thoroughly before bed install.
  - b. Figure out what you are missing – what storage is needed?
  - c. If you can – build bed off of the truck – so you can sandblast and paint – BUT YOU NEED A CRANE or two skidsteers.
11. Storage
  - a. Starting and exercising the RVHauler
  - b. Fuel Treatment
  - c. Battery – parasitic draws

WARNING – if you an introvert, don't convert a truck – you can't hide.