

# Travel trailer simple user manual

## MXT 184 toy hauler.

### Hitching and un-hitching trailers

If you rent a trailer, you need to make sure you know how to **hitch and un-hitch it safely**. The most essential point is to ensure the trailer isn't going to move when you hitch and un-hitch it. Here are the basics for un-hitching.

1. Find a spot that is as naturally level as possible
2. Chock the wheels of the trailer to ensure it doesn't move
3. Unlock the hitch and remove break connector and safety chains
4. Use the trailer jack to raise the trailer out of the hitch
5. Move the tow vehicle clear from the trailer
6. Lower the trailer and level it end-to-end

Here are the basics for hitching.

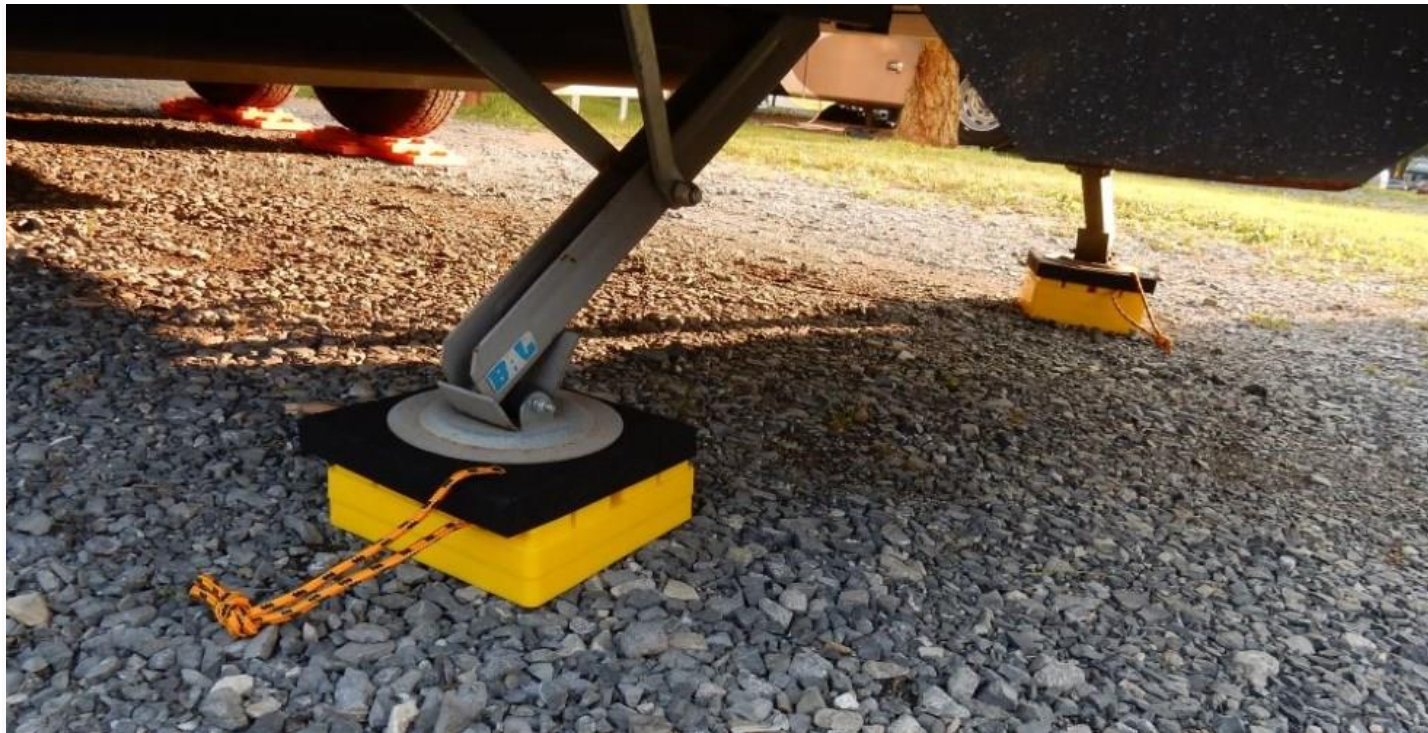
1. Ensure the wheels have chocks on them
2. Raise your stabilizers
3. Remove all your hookups
4. Raise the trailer using the jack
5. Move the tow vehicle into position under the trailer hitch
6. Lower the trailer onto the hitch
7. Lock the hitch into place
8. Connect break connector and safety chains
9. Retract the trailer jack
10. Remove the wheel chocks from the trailer (with the tow vehicle breaks engaged)

# Leveling

When parking at your campsite, the first thing you'll need to do is get your RV leveled out. This is both for your comfort, and because the RV will function better when it's level. This is especially important to do for the refrigerator. They can malfunction if they are used when the RV is too unlevel. Should be within 2 -3 in of level each way.

## Basic rules of leveling

- Chock your wheels before you level
- Level side to side first, then level front to back
- Use leveling blocks on uneven or soft ground



## Trailer leveling

Trailers will have a single front jack that is used both to enable you to hitch and un-hitch your trailer and to level it front to back. Most RV campsites are level enough side to side. If needed, you level side to side by placing stabilizer blocks or wood planks on the

low side of the trailer and driving the trailer wheels up onto them. Once in place, you then un-hitch the trailer, chock the wheels, and finally level end to end using the jack.

Once a trailer is leveled, you deploy stabilizers at each back corner to keep it from wiggling around. These are not for leveling the trailer and will buckle if they take the full weight of it.

## Hookups



The 30 amp, 110v cord is inside the round cap. It pulls out about 12 ft which should be enough to reach the campsite power directly. If you only have access to 110 v 15 amp power from a standard outlet, use the adapter and know that it will keep the batteries charged but will only power 1 heat changing item: microwave, AC, electric water heater, blow dryer, or space heater. On the 30 amp, you can use two at a

time. The fridge and battery charged use less than 5 amps so can often be used along with 1 or two bigger use items as above.

The water hose hookup is used to pressurize the system for use without the tank or pump being need and also for filling the 40 gal. water tank if you change the valves as shown in this photo:

The valve as shown in the photo is for water system use with a hose plugged in OR with the internal 12 v pump coming from the tank. If



the valve is turned 90 degrees clockwise it will be set for filling the tank from a hose.

## Electricity

Your RV gets power from two sources: batteries and shore power. Shore power is when you plug your RV into an outlet at an RV park. When it is not plugged in, everything runs off its batteries. The batteries in most RVs can only run limited appliances, and only for a fairly short period of time, usually overnight if power is used sparingly. It has mostly LED lights. The heater fan uses the most battery power of the 12 v. items. Things like the microwave and air conditioning typically require shore power.

Your battery gets recharged when you plug into shore power or when you have an external power source like a generator. With a trailer, the tow vehicle can charge the trailer batteries slowly while the brake system is connected and the vehicle engine is running.

## Shore power

Your RV will be rated for a certain amperage—30 amps. That is about 2 standard household circuits. You can plug into lower amperage, but you won't be able to use some of your appliances without risking an overload of some kind.

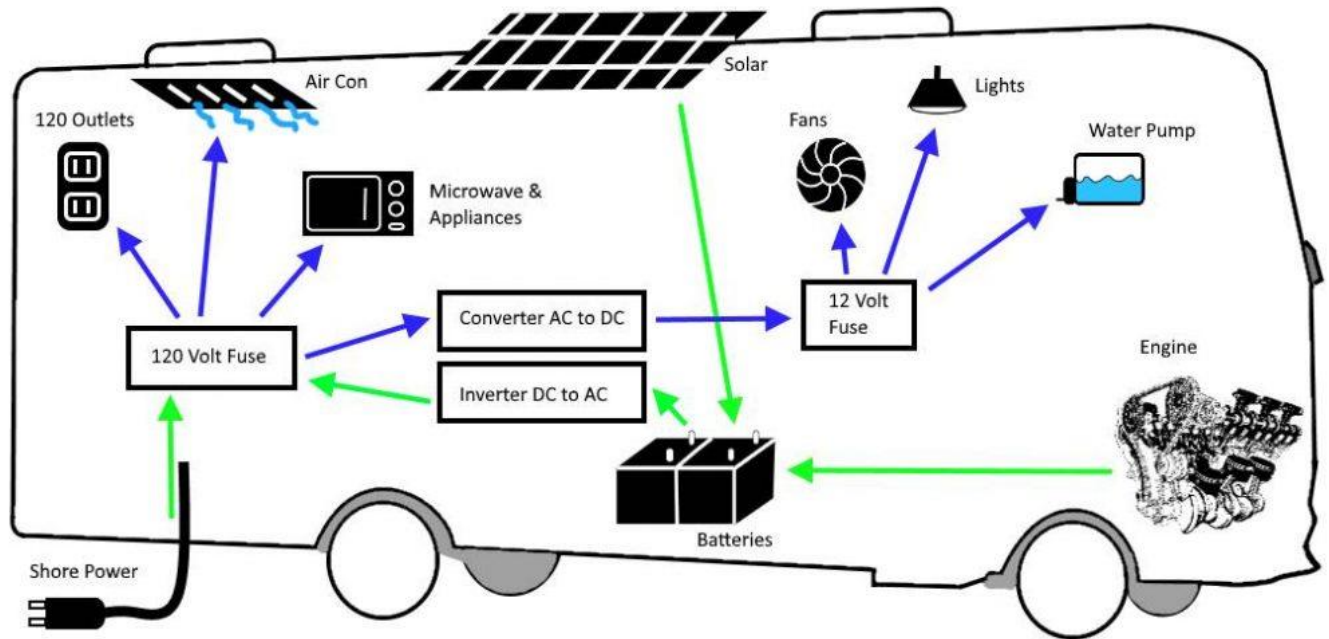


Illustration by: Sigfried Trent

## Water and sewer

Nearly every RV has three water tanks: Fresh water, Grey water, and Black water. See photo below.

**Fresh water:** This is the water you use to drink, cook, shower, and flush with. It is your water supply.

**Grey water:** This is the water that goes down the sinks and from the shower.

**Black water:** This is the sewage water that comes from the toilet.

Your RV will have a meter to tell you how full each of these tanks are. The black water tank meter is off, It shows 3 bars when it is empty.

RVs will also have a clean water line where you can directly plug in a hose to use the local city water supply directly. When you do this, you don't need to use the fresh water tank or the water pump. See above.

# Inside switches

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See photo:



The heater thermostat is simple; set it to the temp you want. The fan will come on right away but the flame won't start for a minute or two. The same delay will happen when you turn it off. It is pilotless so it will start on its own.

The water heater generally runs off propane tank. Instead it can be set to use 110v electricity from shore power, but counts as 1 of your 1 or two high usage items to avoid tripping breakers. The water heater is

only 6 gallons, but it can easily do two showers as it is very hot—so with a little cold water mixed in and turning off the shower head while soaping up will allow two showers.

## What goes in?

You should only put fresh clean water into the fresh tank. You should have a special hose that you only use to fill the fresh tank. You should never use it with the other tanks.

For the Grey and Black tanks, you want to avoid getting any harsh chemicals in there.

Drain cleaner and the like can eat away at the tanks and cause them to rupture.

Basically, if you don't know it's safe to put down the drain or in the toilet of an RV, don't put it in there.

For the toilet, you need to use compostable single-ply toilet paper. It will break down in there and flush out easily. Other stuff will turn into a caked on mess inside the tank. You really don't want that to happen. And again, any cleanser or deodorant not specifically designed for RVs should be avoided. Finally, before you make a solid deposit into the black tank, make sure to flush a gallon or so of water into it first. That keeps things from sticking to the bottom.



## Sewer hookup

If you have sewer hookups, you connect the black tank to the sewer using a flexible pipe. You can set this up when you arrive, or you can wait until the tank is nearly full. You want to make sure the pipe is running downhill to the sewer or it won't work. The same pipe can empty both the black and grey tanks. Typically, you would flush the black first, then the grey so that the grey water helps clean out the pipe.





When dumping, you want a water source to help you flush out and clean the pipe. You can also use the water source to clean out your pipe before putting it away.

If you don't have hookups, then the RV Park will usually have a dumping station for everyone to drive up and use. It's illegal to dump your sewage anywhere else. If you are going somewhere that has no sewer, you need to be careful to avoid filling your tank too fast, so use other toilets whenever possible. The 30 gal sewage waste tank will generally last a weekend for two people. If necessary, the grey water tank can be emptied on the ground. This cannot be done for the black water sewage tank.