



A couple of jerry cans and a box mounted to the A frame provides plenty of storage



If you enjoy cycling, invest in some brackets for your bikes



Modifying the jockey wheel's turn handle clamp saves loads of time when hitching

Have your local exhaust shop bend up some pipe to attach your satellite dish



A-FRAME SOLUTIONS

Tips to help make full use of your A-frame



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Protect your gas bottles by adding a cover

We all know that your A-frame is where your hitch is, but you can do so much more in this area. Let's look at how you can improve, simplify, add some storage, and keep things protected on your A-frame with a few small improvements. And it can all be done over a weekend!

Jack vs Jockey Wheel

A modification here replaces the standard jockey wheel and turn handle clamps. The modification involves adding a quick-release sleeve system with a pin. Lifting the van up off the hitch is now a breeze! Once disconnected, the jack is removed in seconds.

Open Mesh

With the simple addition of some open mesh, you now have a great place to carry those "hard to find a place for" items. Use it for hoses, firewood, a dirty BBQ plate, or some smelly fishing gear like crab nets. Weld it in place or use a couple of bolts...easy!

Gas Bottles/Jerry Cans

Many manufacturers opt to have the gas bottles located here. If you add a canvas cover, the bottles are better protected. Some RVs come standard with jerry can holders. If yours doesn't, simply add a lightweight bracket and bolt it on. It's great for an emergency water supply.

Satellite Dish Holder

Use the jockey wheel bracket and have some S bends added to 50mm exhaust tube to hold your satellite dish in place. A simple bicycle lock will help keep it safe.

Metal Lockable Lightweight Box

Fit a lightweight alloy/metal box across the A frame to lock away bits and pieces. You can even buy special-purpose generator boxes to keep your gennie locked away, but still easily accessible.

Add Some Brackets

If you are looking for a way to carry an outboard motor or a couple of bicycles, manufactured special-purpose brackets are perfect for the job. They are easy to fit using U Bolts and clamps.

Weatherproof Cover

Use some left over tarp and waterproof material to sew a triangle "sock". It slips over the A-frame and keeps all those electrical plugs and hitching gear out of sight and dry. Use a velcro strap or two to hold it in place.

Summing Up

Some RV A-frames are not designed or manufactured to hold additional weight. If you are unsure, seek advice from the manufacturer beforehand.

Any A-frame modifications you undertake need to comply. If they are non-compliant, you could void your warranty and insurance, and possibly earn a defect notice. It's not always as simple as spotting a good idea and then implementing it on your own RV. Factors such as extra weight and location of the new addition need to be carefully considered. ■

A "sock" is an ideal solution to protect your A-frame electrics and hitching gear

