How To Improve Your RV's AC Airflow

by Gary L. Mace

Below I will show a common problem on many camping trailers and RV's. Many of the more expensive, higher quality units may not have this issue. However, many campers will. I discovered the issue when I went to change my non-closing ac vent covers with replacements that I could open/close.



When I removed the vent cover which exposed only the cover housing, it would be easy to miss the problem. But once you feel around as I did in the photo, you will likely find several large gaps between the plastic housing and vent duct. Here I can fit my fingers in the gap. The next photo will show better the problem.

Once the cover housing is removed, if this is what you see, you also are likely loosing air flow between the ceiling and the roof. The lower hole is in ceiling and the upper hole is in the bottom of the ac vent ductwork. Quite often they do not align properly, and the housing will not make a tight seal with the upper hole. This allows much of your cold air to leak into the ceiling void.





To fix, I used good quality duct tape to seal the void. Note I said DUCT tape, not DUCK tape. This is the good stuff you find in the heating isle. It is a heavy tin foil tape with very sticky adhesive. I found 4" strips worked best, and I overlapped each about 1/2"

Continue sealing until the entire void is sealed. Try to keep the amount on the ceiling less than the width of your housings lip.

Now, simply carefully slip the housing back into hole and rescrew it to ceiling. Then snap or twist your vent cover back on.





Once the housing and cover is installed, the repair will not be noticeable but there is a good chance once all vents are properly sealed, you may notice improved AC performance.