

# EVALUATION AND COMPARISON CHECKLIST

## PART 1 OF 2

### EVALUATION: YOUR CONSIDERATIONS WHEN PURCHASING A NEW CARAVAN

#### INTENDED TOW VEHICLE

Make \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum ball-load rating (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Model \_\_\_\_\_

GVM (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_

GCM (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum tow rating (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Rear axle (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

#### REQUIREMENTS AND PREFERENCES

What is your budget? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Wheels:

When do you need it? \_\_\_\_\_

Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Number of berths \_\_\_\_\_

Model \_\_\_\_\_

Required payload capacity (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Material \_\_\_\_\_

(payload = ATM rating minus Tare mass)

\*Do you really need to carry this much equipment and water?  
Remember, water is included in the 'load', not in the Tare mass.

Maximum overall dimensions (m):

Length \_\_\_\_\_

Width \_\_\_\_\_

Type \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum ball-loading  
when the van is fully loaded  
in a typical manner (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Chassis and A-frame:

ATM rating (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Construction \_\_\_\_\_

GTM rating (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Materials \_\_\_\_\_

Axes Single or Tandem

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Suspension Solid Axle or Independent

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Springs Leaf or Coil

Water tanks:

Are shock absorbers required?

Number \_\_\_\_\_

(essential for coil-spring suspensions)

Capacities \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Clearance and protection \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUIREMENTS AND PREFERENCES - CONTINUED

### Gas cylinders:

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Capacities \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

### Layout details:

Can the dealer/manufacturer provide a dimensioned drawing showing location of the bed, table, chairs, benches, appliances, storage, etc?

### Features:

Shower \_\_\_\_\_

Toilet \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Appliances:

Stove \_\_\_\_\_

Fridge \_\_\_\_\_

Microwave \_\_\_\_\_

Hot water system \_\_\_\_\_

TV/audio \_\_\_\_\_

Air-conditioner \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Protection/safety:

Fire extinguisher \_\_\_\_\_

Alarms \_\_\_\_\_

Smoke detector \_\_\_\_\_

CO detector \_\_\_\_\_

Alarm \_\_\_\_\_

GPS tracking \_\_\_\_\_

### Awning(s):

Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Material \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

Is an electric brake controller required?

Are extended mirrors required?

Is a weight distribution system and/or other towing aid required?

### Spare wheel(s) and tyre(s):

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

A suitable approved jack, with legal jacking points, must be provided. Are they?

### Battery:

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Type \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

Capacity \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Solar panels and controller \_\_\_\_\_

Battery charger \_\_\_\_\_

Other specific requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Other specific preferences \_\_\_\_\_

## PART 2 OF 2:

# COMPARISON OF VARIOUS MAKES AND MODELS

\*Use this sheet to compare your preferred features and requirements with your notes in Part 1

Make \_\_\_\_\_

### Tyres:

Model \_\_\_\_\_

Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer \_\_\_\_\_

Model \_\_\_\_\_

Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

ATM rating (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

### Chassis and A-Frame

GTM rating (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Materials \_\_\_\_\_

Tare mass (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

\*Is the Tare mass the actual measured mass of the empty caravan as it leaves the supplier, fitted with everything that was stated on the sales contract?

Payload capacity (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Ball-loading at Tare mass (kg) \_\_\_\_\_

Corrosion protection \_\_\_\_\_

Overall Length (m) \_\_\_\_\_

Is written proof of ADR 62 / VSB1 compliance available?

Width (m) \_\_\_\_\_

### Water tanks:

Height (m) \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of berths \_\_\_\_\_

Capacities \_\_\_\_\_

Axes Single or Tandem

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Suspension Solid Axle or Independent

Clearance and protection \_\_\_\_\_

If tandem-axle, is the suspension system load-sharing? \_\_\_\_\_

### Gas cylinders:

If non-load-sharing, ask to see written proof of the 120 per cent Safety Factor Compliance

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Springs Leaf or Coil

Capacities \_\_\_\_\_

Are shock absorbers required?

Location \_\_\_\_\_

### Wheels:

### Features:

Brand \_\_\_\_\_

Shower \_\_\_\_\_

Material \_\_\_\_\_

Toilet \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Appliances:**

Stove \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fridge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Microwave \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hot-water system \_\_\_\_\_  
 TV/audio \_\_\_\_\_  
 Air-conditioner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Protection/safety:**

Fire extinguisher \_\_\_\_\_  
 Smoke-detector/alarm \_\_\_\_\_  
 CO-detector/alarm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alarm \_\_\_\_\_  
 GPS tracking \_\_\_\_\_

**Awning:**

Brand \_\_\_\_\_  
 Material \_\_\_\_\_  
 Size \_\_\_\_\_

Is a weight-distribution system and/or other towing aids required?

**Spare wheel(s) and tyre(s):**

Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location \_\_\_\_\_

Suitable approved jack with legal jacking points provided?

**Batteries:**

Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type \_\_\_\_\_  
 Size \_\_\_\_\_  
 Capacity \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location \_\_\_\_\_

Solar panels and controller \_\_\_\_\_

Capacity of solar panels and controller \_\_\_\_\_

Battery charger \_\_\_\_\_

Other equipment fitted \_\_\_\_\_

**RATINGS**

Component rating

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Size 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Mechanical design

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Construction 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Styling 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Internal layout 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Features 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Appliances 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Accessories 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Colours 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

X Factor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Overall rating \_\_\_\_\_

Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_