

RV Before and After.mp3

[00:00:00] What's up, everyone? I'm Teacher Mike. Today I'm finally going to give you a look at my remodeled RV. Come on in.

[00:00:16] Today, the RV, myself and my family, we are in beautiful northern Idaho. It's starting to get a little snow here. I know a lot of you have been asking to see what it looks like inside so I'm going to give you the tour today of all the renovations, and you can see what it looks like now compared to what it looked like before when I first got it. Which...it's way better now. Before we head inside there, if you haven't already, it would mean a lot to me if you could subscribe to my channel. It's really the greatest compliment you can give me. If you like the video, it would help me out a lot by giving it a like or leaving a comment below.

[00:00:53] As you may know, I'm going back to China soon, a little sooner than I thought, so we had to cut our RV trip a little short. But I mean, we drove 7000 miles in about three months. So it was quite the journey. Surprisingly, we did not have too many serious problems with the RV, which I was expecting because this thing is 30 years old. So I'm really happy that we took the time and took a little extra money to fix it up and get it running nice and get it nice inside. So it's a nice space where we enjoy being together for so long. However, that's not to say we didn't have any close calls. I would say on this trip there were two times where I was really, really scared. The first time, it was in the beginning, we were driving on the highway and I was coming onto the highway and a semi was coming off the highway and he swerved right in front of me. Almost hit me. Thankfully, he was going really fast and I was going slow, but that could have been really bad. But coincidentally, on our final drive up to Idaho here, the very last day that we really had to drive far, we just about died. And I know that's an easy thing to say, but we seriously almost died. We spent the night in Oregon. It snowed a little bit. It was a little cold out and the roads were a little icy. I was driving really, really slow. We were driving across a little bridge and I don't know why, but if you don't know this, bridges tend to get a little colder than the road. And so they could have ice on them when the road doesn't have ice. I don't know if it's the cold wind going underneath, which keeps the road colder from the bottom. I'm not sure. Anyway, we were driving nice and slow, maybe forty miles an hour, and a big SUV was coming at me and she was probably

going the normal speed about sixty miles an hour. We crossed the bridge at the same time. I was going this way. She was coming this way. It happened so fast. I just saw her car go this way and then this way in maybe a half a second. And she just flew by me going sideways. I just was like, oh my gosh, what just happened? I immediately stopped and turned around because I knew that they were not going to be able to recover from their spin and that something bad was going to happen. So I went back and I saw them on my side of the road. So they cross the road and they were in the ditch. For the last several days I just can't stop thinking about how close that was. If we had left the campground one second later, they would've crossed the road and hit us straight on. And my wife and Little Mike were sleeping, so they would have not had any idea what was happening. And if we would have left the campground one second earlier, I never would have seen them spin out and go in the ditch. It's just... It's just... It's just crazy when you think about it. But thank God we are...we are OK. And they were OK, too. I went back, you can see their car here. I went over there right away and asked if everybody was OK. The mom came out and she was crying. The kids were crying. They didn't know what happened. I asked if everybody was OK. Are you hurt? Are you hurt? The boy had like one little bruise here, but everybody was fine. They were just in shock and she didn't know what to do. She couldn't speak out a full sentence. It was just crazy. I just told the mom, like, take a deep breath. The kids are OK. Everybody's safe. Your car is done. It's totaled. You're going to need a new car. I mean, three of the tires flew off, the axle was like twisted. I could see the brake rotors just like snapped in half. And there was bumpers and plastic pieces everywhere. They actually got very lucky as well. She used my phone call, her husband. He came out and picked them up and everything was OK, but... This close. One second. That was the difference between a very, very bad accident and not even realizing what had happened to them.

[00:04:48] Anyway, that was by far the craziest thing that happened on our trip. We made so many great memories, saw so many beautiful national parks, made some new friends. Saw so many old friends, a lot of people who we met in Shanghai or in China. It was just an awesome, awesome trip. But we have a flight. And if we don't get this flight, then I don't know when we're going to be able to come back because the flights are so hard to come by. And the rules in China are changing every month. They're getting more and more strict.

[00:05:18] So without further ado, let's go have a look in the Toy camper. I call it the Toy camper. Toyota camper. OK, we'll have a look and see what it looks like now. Here's the new floor that I did. It's not real wood. It's vinyl planking, but it looks pretty nice. Here's the new painted cabinets. I've got a little kitchenette and I've got a microwave here. Got an oven, which was great. You could do some baking with pizza and muffins. And here's our four-burner stove. We did a lot of cooking here. And the previous owner gave us this thing so we could have a little more counter space to prepare food. And then when you're done, you can take it off and then start cooking on the cooktop. As for the rest of it, here it is. Here's my awesome gas powered fridge. This thing is frigid. Oh, I've still got some sauces in there. I'd better take those out. This thing on half power will just freeze everything inside. It works almost too good. So as you can see, it's winter out now and it was quite cold. So right here we have a propane heater which saved us a lot and some of those cold nights. This here is a chair which is bolted to the frame. I would put Little Mike's car seat there and here's a chain that's on it. I would attach it to that. So that worked out really well for traveling with a baby. Here's the couch. And I set up a little 28" inch smart TV here. It's pretty cool. You can just turn on some Netflix or whatever, watch a little movie. And my mom made me these awesome pillows. Itasca State Park. These are some famous parks in my home state of Minnesota. There was one more chair here, but I took it out so that I could put the pack and play right here so Little Mike could sleep and he could play in there during the daytime. Normally the table would go here. Here's the table. Just take this out, put it in here. You put the table on top or you could put it in this one or even in this one.

[00:07:22] Yeah. So I just sit back, have some dinner, watch TV. And of course, we've got lots of storage up here. They're all kind of empty now, but I kept a lot of the towels and paper goods and cooking stuff here. These are a little bit bigger, so I put a lot of the food in here. Quite, quite spacious. I repainted all the lights put in LED lights instead of the regular lights. We got a smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector.

[00:07:49] I had to redo this piece of wood. It's one of the things I'm doing here in Idaho is putting this new ceiling in. The last one I had, I was not very happy with it. I didn't choose the right material. Before I had this plastic here and it was just like all bubbly and wavy after driving it for a few weeks. So I kind of regret that. But now I've got this wood here and it's nice and strong and flat and straight and worked out really nice.

[00:08:13] And of course, this is the bed where we'd sleep. Every time you wake up in the morning, you kind of hit your head if you forgot where you were. But overall, I was really comfortable to sleep in, especially when we found some nice quiet campgrounds next to the ocean or next to a little river. It's very, very peaceful.

[00:08:31] I forgot to show you the bathroom. We bought this little thing so we could put our shoes on here because it was just blocking the doorway every time we kept our shoes there. And so when you live in a space as small as this one, you have to really learn how to minimize. So this is actually a shower and it does work. It has a hot water heater. But because we're not, like, showering all the time, we kind of use it as storage for things like these chairs, our drinking water, mop, stuff like that. I had to fix the toilet too. There were some gaskets leaking, which was super gross. And then I put this hose here so I can actually turn the water on and off as I need it. Because in here you can't just turn the water on all the way. You're very limited as far as the size of your water tank. I'll show you that right now. The water tank is actually down here under the couch. So you can see it's about half full there. This would last us to about two or three days. So we'd use the water in the sink very sparingly. And so underneath the shower is what's called a gray water tank. Underneath the toilet is a sewer tank.

[00:09:40] When they get full, you've got to go dump them right there. That's where all the good stuff comes out. Inside the bumper, there's my sewer hose right there. Pull that out. I've got a secret little hiding spot for it here. Attach it to that, find a dump station and pull the handle and say goodbye to all the bad water. It's really a learning process to operate an RV. For example, right here, this is the water heater. It runs off gas. Here's where the battery is so you can have lights and power inside. In here, I can pull out a plug, plug it into a wall so I can have unlimited power and not have to rely on the battery. If I have a water connection, I can connect it here and have unlimited water. But if I don't, I have to put the water in here and fill up the tank I just showed you. And then in here, this is where we keep all the propane gas. So I can see it's about a quarter tank, I'm a little bit low. The propane is really, really important because it runs your heater and runs your fridge. It does all your cooking on your stove and in the oven. It also runs the water heater, so very important to make sure we always had propane in the tank. We did run out one night and that was a cold night. Won't do that again.

[00:11:08] But there you have it. That is how we lived for the last three months. I'm glad I had this experience just to learn how to fix these things and learn a little bit about remodeling. I learned a lot of skills. I forgot to show you the air conditioner here. This thing is frigid. Fortunately, we didn't have to use it because our trip was October through December. Maybe we used it twice, but man it just freezes you out.

[00:11:37] So, yeah, there it is. All the comforts of home in one tiny little box on wheels. I hope everybody enjoyed this tour and thank you for watching all my videos over the past few months as I've been traveling all over the US. It's definitely been challenging trying to upload videos using your cell phone signal. It took some patience but we got it done and we had a great time. Now it's time to put it in storage and who knows when I'll get back to it to use it. We'll see. Right now, the priority is just making this flight to China, because if we miss that, then, well, I guess we'll just come back, get the RV and get on the road again.

[00:12:15] Thank you guys again so much for subscribing to this channel. You are awesome. Don't forget to leave a like and share the video around. I hope everybody is safe, happy and healthy. And when I see you in the next video, maybe I'll be back in Shanghai. I don't know. But until then, I'm Teacher Mike. See you next time!