



Batteries & Slide Rooms

(Pertains to electrically operated and hydraulic pump driven slide rooms)

Many complaints received about slide rooms that fail to move properly are related to the RV's battery condition. In order to move a slide room which is very heavy, the electric motor or pump motor pulls a lot of amperage (or "current") to operate. If your battery is in poor condition or has failed it cannot provide the amperage required to operate the slide room system.

A common misconception is that plugging in your RV to an electrical source will provide enough power to operate the slide room. In this scenario you are asking your *power converter* to provide the amperage required to operate the slide room that the battery should be providing. This is akin to putting your car in drive, holding the brake and flooring the accelerator - something is going to break! In your RV's case it's the converter. It is not designed to be run under maximum load like that.

It may tolerate it occasionally, but why take the chance of damaging it? Make sure you have a fully charged adequate battery bank to operate the slide mechanism.

Another note, most travel trailer and 5th wheels with slides are equipped with at least two batteries for this purpose, eliminating one of the batteries because you don't "dry camp" can severely reduce the available power to your slide room system. Always maintain the proper battery size and quantity as recommended by your RV's manufacturer.

Kevin Bell
Sundance Custom RV Inc.
(760) 408-2836
www.sundancecustomrv.com