

Entry Step Maintenance

By Lt Dan

Probably the most used and abused part of any motorhome are the entry steps. They are a great convenience when they work, but a real pain when they quit. Regular maintenance can extend the life of the steps by making the in and out movement much easier on the motor.

Keeping the steps free of mud and debris is important, but routine lubrication is a must. There are basically four lube points on Kwikiee two step system accessible from the outside, and eleven lube points accessible from underneath.

If the steps start to hesitate, jam up or stutter when moving, the gear motor is usually the problem. It's basically a power window gear motor that's been adapted for use on the steps. Inside is a plastic worm gear that can become stripped caused by age or stepping on the steps before they lock in place.

Don't go buying the expensive Kwikiee brand replacement as it is exactly the same as the cheaper aftermarket motors available on Amazon. Just search for **676061 Motor** and you will find several options for under \$35 where the Kwikiee labeled one is over \$100. It's a very easy changeout with only three bolts holding the motor.

CAUTION: Always support the steps when working on them and keep your body and hands clear of the scissor mechanism any time the motor operates.

