

Furnace Replacement

Problem: I have taken out the old furnace by hook and by crook without removing my stove. Should I go on and take out the stove in order to install the new furnace? Or should I try to do it on my side in the trailer? I have a 1994 Excella. After a major battle, I learned that the hose connections were riveted on.

Answer: Ah, the joys of working on an Airstream! One thing I learned long ago was that the best way to take one apart is to know how they put them together. (From the outside in.)

As for access to your furnace, removing the stove is the easiest way to get there. Removing the stove is actually easier than it looks at first.

Start by turning off the LP gas at the bottles out front, both of them.

At the stove, start by removing the grates and top.

Along each side, you should see two Phillips head screws. Remove them (total of 4). It is possible there will be more screws in the frame along the front. Open the oven door to make sure. If there are, remove them as well.

Using two properly sized wrenches, crescent or open-end, loosen and separate the connection to the gas feed line. Now it is just a matter of getting a good hold on the stove and lifting it up and out.

Next, install your new furnace.

Putting the stove back, you just reverse the process.

Once you have secured the gas line and checked it for leaks, you will need to turn the gas back on and purge the lines. You can do this at the stove by turning on a burner and holding a flame near it until it lights.

Your furnace gas lines should also be purged by turning on the heat. As a final check, use a gas leak detector and make sure there are no propane leaks.