

It is time to winterize! What anti-freeze should I use?

There are several choices of RV anti-freeze on the market that you can use to winterize your trailer and all three provide adequate freeze protection when used according to label instructions. There are different levels of freeze protection and you will want to pick one based on your area's average winter temperatures.

Propylene Glycol based: This type of anti-freeze is non-flammable, non-toxic and safe for all RV plumbing. Propylene glycol is a lubricant and will actually work to extend the life of the seals in your faucets and valves.
In my opinion this type of anti-freeze is the safest to use if you are pumping anti-freeze through the entire plumbing system.

Propylene/Ethanol Blend: This product is non-toxic and generally safe for RV plumbing systems. However, it is unknown what concentration of ethanol it would take to cause any unpleasant tastes or smells in RV plumbing systems and/or dry out plumbing seals.
I would use this type of anti-freeze when blowing out the plumbing system with air. The anti-freeze would only be used in p-traps, toilet and tank drain valves etc.

Ethanol (alcohol) based: Ethanol is extremely flammable; and has been known to cause unpleasant smells or taste in plumbing systems and should only be used with certain types of water lines, such as Pex tubing.
Since it is made from alcohol, it can dry out the rubber seals that are used in faucets and gate valves. I would only use this type of anti-freeze when blowing out the plumbing system with air. The anti-freeze would only be used in p-traps, toilet and tank drain valves etc.

*(Never use automotive anti-freeze in your RV plumbing system! It is **Highly Toxic** and requires proper disposal.)*

Always read the label before using any RV anti-freeze and follow listed directions.



How much anti-freeze will I need?

The amount of anti-freeze required depends on the amount of water lines in your plumbing system and size of water heater if your RV does not have a water heater by-pass. The standard requirement is about 1-3 gallons; if you do not have a water heater bypass, then you would require about 7-10 gallons.

If you are pumping anti-freeze through entire system, it is advisable that you consider using a non-toxic, drinkable anti-freeze for your system.

An example of a **Propylene/Ethanol Blend RV Anti-freeze**