

Eezi-Awn Globetrotter Trailer Tent \$2,800

Addressing the rapidly growing adventure trailer market, Eezi-Awn has introduced a tent designed specifically for installation on top of a trailer, although we expect the unit will also work at bed-height on many trucks—anything with a mounting height of no greater than 59 inches (1.5 meters). Eezi-Awn is most noted for the quality of its tents, but the Globetrotter goes beyond product reliability into some unique innovations, including an integrated (but removable) changing room and, built into the roof of the tent, a 63-inch-wide, 67-inch-long awning. Closed, the tent is 83 by 63 by 8 inches, and weighs 110 pounds. equipt1.com, 866-703-1026; adventuretrailers.com, 877-661-8097



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FIRE, WATER, TABLE, AND KNIFE

Adventure Trailers custom water tank w/pump, \$380

In the 1980s, on our first extended trip to Baja in my FJ55, we stored and delivered water via four five-gallon Reliance plastic jugs with plastic twist faucets. Not only was it tough to secure and move them around (for a small person), they leaked—not a good thing when resupply could be a two-day drive away. Ever since then I've been seeking the perfect water delivery system, and finally saw one I really liked on my brother's Horizon Adventure Trailer: tough, no-leak black polyethylene (food-safe, and no UV penetration, to reduce algal growth), tall and narrow for an easy fit, with a drain outlet, and a hand-operated pump at the top. Easy, versatile, foolproof (use a hose on the drain outlet if the pump fails). Luck has it that AT will make a custom tank to your specifications (tall, short, wide, narrow—you name it)—as shown, a 19-gallon, 36 x 19 x 7.75 inches tank with a manual diaphragm pump runs about \$380. Tank capacities from 3 to 260 gallons are available in 1/4" thick, food-grade polyethylene. Any combination of standard pipe fittings are possible. Manual or electric pumps may be specified. Secure with at least two high-quality ratchet straps to hardware affixed through your floor.



Deka Battery

Overland Journal used Deka group 31 deep-cycle AGM batteries to power the fridges for our test and review. Deka's AGM (absorbed glass mat) design is completely sealed and requires no maintenance. The electrolyte is absorbed in sponge-like separators made of matted glass fibers, which allows them to withstand the rigors of overland use better than traditional lead plate construction. The Deka batteries are VRLA (valve-regulated lead acid), and use a recombination action to prevent the escape of gasses normally lost in a flooded lead-acid battery. Through-partition weld seals are used to ensure the highest quality protection against minute electrical currents which could otherwise flow between cells, contributing to self-discharge. *Terminals and bushings are completely solid forged components with no porosity, unlike typical cast units which are porous and can leak corrosive gasses. Standard terminal connectors as well as threaded studs are included, and custom terminal configurations are available via special order.*

Each unit is encased in a rugged polypropylene case manufactured and controlled exclusively at an on-site molding facility (not outsourced). The Deka group 31 size is well-suited to an overland/ expedition vehicle, as it is a good compromise between weight and capacity, while offering exceptional value. Rated at 105 amp-hours (20Hr rate) and 800CCA, they offer many hours of fridge power while stationary at a campsite or trailhead. And just in case the situation arises, they will operate while submerged in up to 30 feet of water. Deka batteries are made in the U.S. by East Penn Mfg. Co., Inc. Visit them on the web at eastpenn-deka.com.



Vehicle accessory:

Adventure Trailers Juicebox 64 Juicebox \$750; RV-25 charge controller \$170

So you want to camp in one spot for a while, and would rather not run the vehicle to recharge your battery? To keep the lights on and the beer cold, consider solar power.

The Juicebox 64 is a complete solar charging system, including two 32-watt Carmanah solar panels, all cables, and the controller to integrate the system into the vehicle. The panels can theoretically generate 64 watts, supplying 5.33 amps at 12 volts DC, although in real-world applications this will be somewhat lower. Adventure Trailers recommends assuming that the panels will generate about 70 percent of peak power in most conditions.

The panels are hinged together, and fold into a case-like structure for storage and protection. A flip-out easel supports the cells at a useful 35 degrees, and 15 feet of cable ensures you can position the panels out of the vehicle's shadow. The Juicebox is ideal for applications where hard mounting panels on the vehicle is not practical. Keep in mind that this system will not be ideal for all applications; contact Adventure Trailers to discuss your needs. Watch future issues of *Overland Journal* for a full build-up and test of the Juicebox 64. adventuretrailers.com