

Leveling Jacks

Two leveling systems are used in motor homes – three point and four point. To operate the **three point-leveling system**, run the front jack down until contact is made with the ground. Next, extend the rear levelers on each side, left and right, until they reach the ground surface. Extend the rear jacks to level the motor home. The front jack operates as a pivot point for height, left and right adjustment. The **four point leveling system** requires that you extend each jack in small increments. Avoid twisting the chassis during the leveling process.

The leveling jacks should never be used as the tool to support the weight of the motor home while performing maintenance to the chassis or replacing a tire. **The leveling system is not designed to support all the weight of the motor home** on a particular axle. Putting the hydraulic jack system under the stress of lifting the motor home off of the ground can permanently damage the hydraulic ram or line, and in many instances, may cause the jack to collapse and physically injure those working around and under the vehicle. If you intend to change a tire or perform maintenance under the motor home, the chassis frame must first be supported with appropriately rated jack stands. **Never lift the motor home wheels off the ground to level it.**

A hydraulic pump stores and transfers the fluid necessary to operate the hydraulic jack system. Too much fluid can cause the pump to turn off before the jacks have fully retracted. The pump may be mounted at the rear or the front of the motor home. Check the fluid level in the hydraulic pump when the front jack is extended six inches. Consult the RV operations manual for proper replacement fluid and refill as needed. If you hear an alarm while turning or driving the RV, it is usually an indication that the fluid level is not at the proper level. The best way to determine the proper fluid level is to extend on jack about six inches, or until the alarm sounds. With the system activated, add fluid until the alarm stops sounding. Retract the jack and the fluid level should be at the recommended level.

Wipe away dirt and debris from the jack ram using a soft lint free cloth. Spray the clean surface with silicone. Avoid other lubricants that may attract dirt and damage seals. Perform this procedure when the jack has been extended for four consecutive days. When staying near ocean areas with heavier salt concentration in the air, spray the jack rams with silicone upon arrival.

Make a visual confirmation that the jacks are extended and working as designed, particularly if movement occurs after the leveling procedure has been performed. Before departure, perform a visual inspection to confirm that the leveling jacks have fully retracted to a closed position. During winter storage, keep the leveling jacks in the retracted position to protect the jacks against damage from rust caused by moisture.