

Van Life Vision & Priorities

Part 1: Living Your Best Van Life

Take a few minutes to envision the life you are moving towards. Include as many details as possible. Imagine yourself driving, camping, working. What does YOUR van life look like? If you are a couple, you might want to fill out this sheet separately then meet to discuss and combine your visions.

Here are some questions to consider:

- What sort of places will you visit? Cities, small towns, national parks, beaches, historic markers, lakes, backroads, remote canyons?
- What do you see yourself doing in these places? What activities and hobbies make you happy? What activities are part of your daily routine? Will you continue these? Are there new hobbies or habits you will pursue?
- How long will you be off-grid, if at all?
- How long will you stay in one location?
- What range of climate and conditions will you see?
- What will you eat and How will you prepare it? How will you clean up after you have prepared it?
- How long will you be out before returning home– or will you live fully on the road?
- What sort of social life will you have? Is it important for you to meet others?
- What work (if any) will you do? What equipment or access does this work require?

Write a short summary of your vision below. Then review what you wrote. Highlight or underline the parts of your vision that are most important to you

Part 2: Identify your Van Design Priorities

In the left column, list the elements from the exercise above that are most important to you, your lifestyle priorities. In the right column, consider how these might affect your van design. (Examples provided)

Priorities	My van should...
travel in remote and beautiful places, exploring and using dispersed camping as a first choice, no service public campgrounds as a second choice	- be able to travel rough roads, have high clearance, all terrain tires, low profile -be relatively new, reliable and well maintained – have room for at least 2 five gallon water tanks – have a source of off-grid power (solar or battery)
Cooking healthy meals with fresh food daily	– have a 12v refrigerator or well made cooler to store fresh veggies, dairy, meats and tofu – room for spices, sauces and cooking pots and pans – cooking surface large enough to use in food prep

Part 3: Rank Your Priorities:

Review the columns above. **These are the most important elements of your van build.** It may not be possible or affordable to focus on all these elements at first. Use the space below to rank the elements that are most important to you.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Part 4. Start Your Research!

Here's where the legwork really gets going! Start with your priority #1. Research design solutions that will ensure your van meets this priority. (For example: Is Cooking fresh food daily important to you? Research food storage options such as 12 volt fridges and coolers, devise a kitchen design that includes adequate cupboards and counter space)