



# Our essential motorhome accessories

By Floriane

It's a question that's often asked on social networks: what **equipment or accessories** do we think are **essential** for a motorhome vacation or trip?

We've had our motorhome since the spring of 2021, and we love this way of traveling. We lived in it for 10 months during our [tour of Europe](#), then used it many times when we came home for vacations.

It's like a **second home** to us. So we didn't hesitate to do a **lot of research** and make a few **small adjustments to** make it feel **like home**.

We tried to **optimize space** and buy **accessories** to protect our motorhome and keep it as long as possible.

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## Kitchen and bathroom equipment

We'll start this article with what we think is the most important thing: creating the kitchen and bathroom equipment you'll be using every day.

Foldable drainer + draining mat

L'[égouttoir pliable](#), vous allez certainement y penser, par contre, nous vous conseillons d'opter pour un [tapis d'égouttement](#) en microfibre pour poser votre égouttoir. Même si votre égouttoir est équipé d'un bac pour récupérer l'excédent d'eau, il y a toujours quelques fuites.

It's also handy if all your dishes don't fit into the drainer. Then you can hang your rug over the shower to dry!

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## Protections

### Protective felt

C'est également un indispensable pour **éviter le bruit et protéger votre vaisselle**. Nous en avons inséré [une feutrine](#) un entre chaque poêle et casserole.

### Non-slip mat

Comme pour les **feutrines**, c'est important de **protéger vos placards**, notamment ceux de la cuisine. Car quand vous roulez toute votre vaisselle, va bouger et donc frotter un peu l'intérieur de vos placards. Nous avons inséré un [tapis antidérapant](#) dans chaque placard.

## Coffee maker

Oubliez la Nespresso ou Senseo, gourmande en énergie, car quand vous serez en bivouac, vous n'aurez pas accès à l'électricité. Nous avons donc opté pour une [cafetière italienne](#), il suffit de remplir le récipient d'eau et le récipient pour le café puis de laisser chauffer sur le feu. C'est un produit que nous avons utilisé tous les jours et nous trouvons le café excellent.

## Barbecue grill

Nous nous sommes équipés d'une [grille à barbecue](#) en cours de voyage, vous trouverez de nombreux espaces pour faire du feu. Vous pourrez ainsi y faire griller vos viandes et poissons ainsi que vos pizzas.

## Water can

Generally speaking, a tank in a motorhome can store between 100 and 120 liters of water. We bought **2 x 20-liter cans** during the trip, to give us greater water autonomy.

## Foldable bucket

It's a basic, **collapsible bucket or tub** for washing clothes, carrying things...

## Solid shampoo

Two essentials for traveling **light** and **0 waste**! We've been using these products ever since we returned from our round-the-world trip.

Aujourd'hui je prépare moi même notre **shampoing solide**, dites moi en commentaire si la recette pourrait vous intéresser.

## Interior fittings

A second point not to be overlooked is the creation of **storage space** that's easy to use and doesn't require too much work.

### Hanging organizer

In our opinion, this is the must-have addition to make life easier in the motorhome: the **hanging shoe organizer**, close to the front door. For our part, we used the bottom pockets for our shoes.

Our daughter has easy access to it. Then, in the top pockets, we stowed outdoor accessories such as hats, gloves, neck wraps, umbrellas, etc. for cold countries, and sun cream, hats and glasses for hot countries.

As well as the equipment we used to go out at night, such as our USB-chargeable headlamps, which have been with us ever since our round-the-world trip. In short, another must-have accessory that will quickly pay for itself.

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## Storage nets

**Nets** to be put absolutely everywhere, it sounds very simple, but we hadn't thought of it before we left... We've made a note of it here, as we've subsequently had trouble finding any.

We recommend that you each put one **above your bed**, and I used it to store my reading book, my sleeping mask and my earplugs (some bivouacs weren't always very quiet). We also had several in the **lounge area** to store our phones (so we didn't have to look everywhere for them) and our travel guides.

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### Foldable clotheshorse

C'est selon nous, également un **indispensable**, lorsque vous rentrerez d'une session piscine, plage ou d'une randonnée arrosée, si vous aviez prévu de prendre la route ou que le temps ne permet pas d'étendre vos affaires dehors, avoir un

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[étendoir](#) au-dessus de votre douche vous **sauvera la vie**.

Water from wet clothes can run directly into your shower tray.

## Hooks

It's also a must-have for keys, tea towels and hand towels.... we recommend **small adhesive hooks** so that you don't need to make any holes and can remove them easily.

## 6. Fit out the hold with storage boxes and bags

Some travelers leave with a very well-organized hold, with lots of shelves. If, like us, you'd like to carry out as little work as possible (perhaps to make it easier to resell your vehicle).

We recommend plastic storage **boxes**. We had 1 large one (1 metre by 50 cm), in which we stored things we hardly ever used. Then two small ones, on top, one with our outdoor stuff, mask, snorkel, snowshoes... and another one with our daughter's manual activities, painting, stock of toys, little treasures brought back from our walks...

Sorry for the mess in the photo, we were in the middle of tidying up and cleaning out our cargo hold. There's also a box for storing less frequently used shoes.

## Converting a closet into a shelf

We had left the hall closet as a closet when we left, what a mistake, we really didn't have enough room to store our things and the organization didn't suit us.

So we added **5 shelves and a pull-out drawer for vegetables**. Finally, our coats were folded in one shelf, we had all the others for storing things and what a gain of space.

## Electronic equipment

### Weather station

We bought one during our trip, as we were using our daughter's bath thermometer, which wasn't accurate enough.

Cette [station météo](#) est équipée de capteurs sans fils donc vous pouvez en déposer 1 dans l'habitacle et 1 dans le compartiment à gaz par exemple.

You'll always know what the temperature is inside and outside the motorhome, so you'll know what to wear when you go out.

### JBL bluetooth speaker

For travelers (like us) who can't do **without music!** We always carry our **JBL Flip** bluetooth speaker in our backpack or camper van, and find it really hard-wearing. After many years of use, it's still as good as new. Note that it can withstand a few splashes or a little rain.

## Reading light

Nous avons acheté nos liseuses en 2016, avant de partir en tour du monde, nous avons opté pour la marque [Kobo de la Fnac](#). Édité 2023, elles sont toujours en excellent état après de nombreuses années et heures d'utilisation.

You can easily download **several books before you leave** or during your trip, so you don't have to choose just one to limit the weight of your backpack, suitcase or vehicle. It's an **easy** , **pleasant** read. It's a sustainable purchase for all voyagers, big and small!

This **reading light is backlit**, so you can read in dimly lit places (buses, hotel rooms and when everyone's sleeping in the camper van).

## Alarm

We fitted ourselves with a **motion detector alarm** that we activate every time we leave the house, so that if someone breaks in, it emits a loud, unpleasant noise, which we hope will deter potential burglars. Just remember to activate it on your way out and deactivate it on your way in.

## Outdoor equipment

### Wedge

This is one of the accessories you'll be taking out most often. For our part, we really needed to be **flat to sleep properly** , and our daughter enjoyed helping us with this family task. Of course, we recommend you buy a spirit level.

## Water hose

We recommend you choose an **extendable water hose** for easy storage in your hold.

## Sika

Les joints de votre camping-car sont fragiles, nous vous recommandons d'avoir toujours à portée de main du [Sika](#), de la colle pour les joints de votre camping-car.

## Laser

Think about it, it can be useful for measuring the **height of a bridge**, because as you can see in some countries, such as Italy or Greece, to name but a few, bridge heights are not always indicated.

It saved us in Italy, in the Puglia region, where we really thought we were going over a bridge, but when in doubt we checked it out, and the verdict from our laser was that we weren't going over at all. We can't always rely on our human eyes to measure distances or heights...

## Folding saw

À avoir également à portée de main, une [scie pliable](#), vous pourriez en avoir besoin pour **couper une branche** qui vous empêche de passer ou pour couper du bois pour les feux de camps sur les bivouacs quand c'est autorisé.

## Children's accessories

Our daughter had just blown out her **first candle** when we bought our campsite, so we had to equip ourselves to adapt the spaces for a baby and then for a little girl during our 10 months in the motorhome.

Of course, our daughter didn't lack for anything during our long trip, and she even took her baths in a bathtub - the ultimate luxury.

## Folding bathtub

Nous avons opté pour la [baignoire pliable Stokke](#) (très légère, la qualité est vraiment top avec un petit bouchon pour vider l'eau), qui rentrait pile-poil, dans

notre douche de salle de bain. Nous l'utilisons également beaucoup pour les bains à l'extérieur.

It's great to be able to take a bath in a camper van – our 3-year-old daughter still uses it. There's also a deckchair for the little ones. It's the thing to have when traveling with a small child.

### Car seats

It's something we spent a lot of time on, as we knew it was going to be used since we drove it for around 15,000 kilometers.

The Isofix system is not generally found on motorhomes, except on very recent models. For example, ours is a 2011 model, with no **Isofix system**, whereas our 2006 car has an Isofix system.

As you can see, we had to buy a **car seat** with a **belt attachment system**. So once again we scoured the internet for reviews, and now we consult the **Sécurange** website every time we buy a car seat.

Nous avons opté pour le [Maxi-Cosi Beryl](#) (qui ne pivote pas) en camping-car il y a plus de place, notre fille pouvait monter dans son siège toute seule.

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### Baby carrier

Our daughter was 1.5 years old when we left, so we decided to take our ergonomic & physiological baby carrier with us.

### Umbrella bed

### Carpets

It's also an accessory we use almost daily, so you can sit quietly outside, discreetly, or have a quick lunch without having to take out your tables and chairs. We recommend you take a thick one to make yourself comfortable.

### Customized netting

We created a **bespoke safety net** for our daughter's cot, as we wanted a system where she could be safe at night but still be able to get out on her own if need be.

Matthieu's mom was responsible for the design and manufacture of this super net. If you'd like more information, we can send you our plans.

### Accessories for digital nomads

As you probably know, we **travel and work at the** same time. It's already quite an organization to reconcile everything, and we also do our utmost to work in **good conditions**.

This starts, of course, with **quality equipment**. So we invested in a laptop stand and a keyboard.

### Notebook stand

We really like this model, because it's easy to use and compact (another very important criterion for us), for a small budget.

## Keyboard and mouse

Matthieu works on a Mac and I on a PC, so we each chose a model adapted to our computer and Bluetooth. Mattieu is very pleased with his purchases, which recharge via USB.

While I find my PC keyboard very pleasant and similar to my computer keyboard, the only downside is that it runs on flat batteries, so I have to remember to switch it off after each use to try to conserve the batteries as long as possible.

[Mac keyboard](#)

[PC keyboard](#)

[Wireless mouse](#)

And sometimes we work on our camping chairs...

Now you know everything you theoretically need in your motorhome! If it makes you feel any better, we bought a lot of equipment along the way. Tell us in the comments what your vanlife indispensables are!

Nous nous sommes également équipés pour nos [15 jours en camping-car en Bretagne](#) et pour nos [4 mois en Scandinavie](#). Si cet article a été utile n'hésitez pas à déposer 5 étoiles ci-dessous.

Thank you for reading all the way through, please feel free to drop us a note below, share on social media, [our Instagram](#), or ask any questions you may have. We read all your messages and we will answer you with the same pleasure!

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