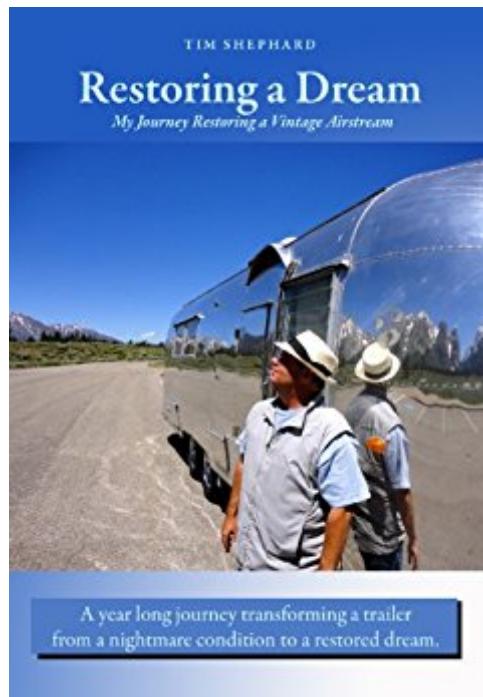


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# Restoring A Dream: My Journey Restoring A Vintage Airstream



## Synopsis

Restoring a Dream offers a unique twist on a restoration tale. Tim tells his personal restoration story from tent camping in the California redwoods to rebuilding two vintage Airstreams. Follow Tim as he decides to sell his 1971 vintage Airstream and purchase a new larger trailer. Learn what changes his mind against buying a new trailer and why he purchases one that is even older! Tim explains what to look out for when 'going vintage', how to choose the right vintage trailer, and how to inspect it to avoid costly mistakes. Ride along as he heads out on a 2400 mile 'recovery mission' to pick up his 46 year-old trailer, and find out how a year-long restoration takes a vintage Airstream from a nightmare condition to a restored dream. Restoring a Dream teaches you how to buy an Airstream covering the necessary steps in Choosing, Inspecting, Recovering, and Restoring your vintage Airstream. Choosing - How to avoid the "Polished Turd", Search by Era, Where to find it?, What should it cost? Inspecting - The Semi-Monocoque Design, They ALL leak, Evaluating skin condition, Inspecting appliances, Learn about axles. Recovering - Prepping for the pick up, Getting it roadworthy, Bringing the trailer home. Restoring - Restoration planning, Types of restorations, Common problems, Documenting your work, Getting started, Frame issues, Subfloor repairs, Weatherproofing, Wiring and woodwork, Plumbing and tanks, Replacing appliances, How to polish and much more!!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

What an amazing book! My wife and I are in the market for an Airstream, bigtime, believe me, it keeps me awake some nights! Hours and hours on the iPad.... After scrolling through out the internet for about 6 months to a year I thought of buying a book or two because I lost my confidence a little bit, a book that would guide me in to the Airstream world from an insiders perspective, from an 'owners-perspective'. What better book could I ask for than this one, this is really a 'guide' to what-and what not regarding Vintage Airstream trailers. Just what I was looking for!Literally a guide from looking for a masterpiece in someone 's backyard, to buying it, towing it home, to restoring it with TLC, to the maiden voyage.... I like that! Because we ALL want to know what it 's like, right...?We are originally from Europe (Belgium) and moved to Southern Nevada a couple yrs ago, and have 3 young kids. Back in Europe we had a nice camping trailer, a typical large german model 'caravan', well build, lots of fun, all the options, sturdy build etc, but Airstreams where some sort of the dream for us and you know that 'one day...' saying became a reality for us, who does not like the Airstreams, specially coming from Western Europe?But living in the US and having the chance to buy one was the easy part from now on because they are offered for sale all over the internet and enough choice in every (surrounding) state. The though part is picking the right one and that made me nervous the more I looked online. What seemed to be a quick buy would end up in buying this book and knowing what 's out there and what to expect.Back in Europe we thought that all Airstreams where about the same, that was not the case, obviously because we live here now and start to know the inn 's and out 's!

I am in the early stages of renovating a vintage Airstream trailer, and was surprised & excited to discover this book of Tim Shephard's experiences. Looking for resources to learn more about the Airstream community and advice on how to fix up my new old trailer, I'd already discovered the Vintage Airstream Podcast (the V.A.P.) that Tim co-hosts. And although I had learned a lot from listening to the first 25 (of the nearly 200) episodes of the podcast, I've been eager to read about the experience of restoring a single Airstream in another, more visual, format.What's special about this book is that it is - as far as I can tell - a unique memoir & how-to manual documenting the entire process of researching, buying, repairing and enjoying a vintage Airstream trailer using modern methods & materials.It is true that there are a number of blogs and forum sites on the topic of

vintage Airstream restoration today. What separates this book in my mind from those other valuable resources is that it is written both with the humility & curiosity of a "beginner's mind," AND the retrospective experience of someone who's done it themselves and has learned a great deal from interviewing the pro's over the last several years."Restoring a Dream" benefits most from Tim's approachable, user-friendly writing style, and the careful but generous placement of photographs throughout. The story is told in a linear fashion so one can easily follow the process as it unfolded for Tim, or alternatively, flip to a specific stage of the restoration for quick reference. It will appeal equally to the casual reader looking for a good story with introductory technical information, and to those who want a reference at hand to make the arduous process of renovating a vintage trailer feel less daunting.

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