

# A&E Slide Out RV Awning Replacement

## Instructions

**(One person can do this but is much easier with two)**

**Smooth side up...textured side down**

### **For A&E Elite Awnings (with flexible cover)**

Awnings with flexible metal cover attached to side of RV. Installation is easier if metal cover is propped up on something such as a 4 x 4. This way it will be easier to get to. The channel with the fabric in it will either have screws in the ends or channel will be crimped. (Most are crimped) Just open up the crimping on both ends with a suitable screwdriver and fabric will be ready to be pulled off.

### **I. Unroll old slide out awning fabric**

With the slide room extended, unroll fabric by turning roller tube. This is easiest accomplished with one person at each end of roller tube as you are unrolling against the spring tension of the roller tube. You may also need a towel to keep your hands dry if there is moisture on the fabric as you, unroll it off the awning roller tube.

### **II. Pin the awning roller tube**

Remove the anti-bellowing device if so equipped. The objective is to get the fabric totally unrolled and the bead attachment channel (where the fabric is attached to the roller tube) in a position that is easiest to work with. (Approximately 12 to 1 o'clock) When it is in this position locate the hole in the main shaft of roller tube by looking through the slots in the end caps of the roller tube and "pin" or "lock" the roller tube by inserting something such as a cotter pin, long thin nail, small awl, etc. into the hole in the main shaft. (This hole is always on a horizontal plane so you must be at the same level as the roller tube while looking through the end of the end cap to locate the hole in the main shaft) Now you are ready to remove the old awning fabric.



**A&E Awning pinned**

### **III. Removing the old RV awning material**

Inspect the awning rail on the RV for a screw either at one end or both ends of the awning fabric. Remove any screws and pull the old fabric out of the awning rail and the channel on the roller tube. It may take a hard tug to initially “free” the old fabric but once freed will pull off relatively easy.

### **IV. Install new awning material**

Inspect opening end of awning rail on RV. If the opening has not been opened up slide a good sized screw driver into the channel and force it open. Next file top and bottom edges to remove any burrs and rough edges. You can also take an extra precaution and tape the ends with duct tape. This is critical, as it is an easy area to tear the new fabric as it is installed.

Next lubricate both channels with spray silicone. (Not WD 40 as it may get on the fabric and then would have to be removed)



**Open end of Roller Tube Channel**

Install new fabric (smooth side up...flap on seams down) from either end-insuring top is up. The installer will be under the fabric installing the new fabric both on the RV and on the roller tube. While installing the new fabric keep the awning fabric as "horizontal" as possible while feeding the fabric into the respective channels. This part of the installation should be done "slow and easy" to insure the new fabric does not get torn. (A second person can be either on the slide room or on a ladder next to the face of the room taking up the slack but should not put much force on the fabric or they may pull the fabric on the awning rail too quickly and tear it. Patience is the key here. The person feeding the fabric is the one in charge and dictates the speed at which the new awning is installed. Center the fabric on the roller tube or place it where the old fabric was.



**Feeding Fabric into Roller Tube**

Next from the ground eyeball the fabric from roller tube to the channel on side of RV to see that it is straight. Observe the relationship between the

top edge of room and the awning fabric. Once it looks straight go to next step.

#### **V. Test awning operation**

Go back to roller tube, turn the roller tube to remove tension on the locking pin, remove the pin and allow roller tube to SLOWLY wind the new fabric onto the tube. Run the slide room in and out and observe that fabric tracks straight as room goes in and out. There can be an issue here if the room is not perpendicular to the rest of the RV. Once this is accomplished install a screw into the awning rail on the RV at both ends to secure the awning fabric.

#### **VI. Anti-Bellowing Device**

Your awning may have an anti-bellowing device which is a knob installed at the forward end of RV and is designed to engage a plate on the RV to keep the awning fabric from unraveling while going down the road. THIS WILL HAVE TO BE RESET. With the room in anti-bellowing device should be approximately 12 to 1 o'clock position for slides on the driver's side and 11 to 12 o'clock for slides on the passenger side. These may change position because our fabric is heavier than the OEM's fabric. If the position has changed simply, remove the screws holding it on, reposition to either 11 o'clock or 1 o'clock position, drill out new holes, and install in the correct position.



**A&E Awning with Anti-Bellowing Device**