

CLUB NEWS – Neat RV Gadget

From Escapees RV Club

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More Words from Mark

A collection of technical tidbits and musings from the club's Technical Advisor

Infrared Thermometers



I always wanted one of these, but until recently the price was prohibitive, but not anymore! A fairly decent infrared thermometer can be had for as little as \$30 - \$40, and they are a very versatile addition to your toolbox. Why, you ask? Because they let you determine the temperature of any item without actually touching it.

I use mine every time I stop for fuel, or at a rest area, to check all of my tires and wheel bearings. It takes just a few seconds per wheel, and you don't get your hands dirty. Just "point and click" the thermometer at each tire sidewall or wheel hub for a few seconds to get a reading. Any abnormally hot tire or bearing can be looked into before it goes catastrophic on the road. That use alone is worth the price of the tool, but I have found many other uses for my IR thermometer!

- * Diagnose vehicle problems - air conditioning, brakes, engines.
- * Verify temperatures for crafting projects.
- * Assure safe temperatures for pet environments.
- * Avoid dangerous car interiors with fast, convenient temperature checks.
- * Check temperatures in the pantry, refrigerator, and freezer.
- * Verify safe holding, cooking and serving temperatures of food and drinks.
- * Avoid guesswork while candy making and canning.
- * Check the temperatures of cooking surfaces when grilling or frying.
- * Monitor temperature of hot water and adjust water heater temp settings.
- * Check thermostats for accuracy.
- * Inspect door and window seals for drafts and heat loss.

The possibilities are endless!

Here are a few online sources for IR thermometers:

www.geeks.com/details.asp?invtid=IR-THERMOMTR

www.thinkgeek.com/gadgets/electronic/8024/

www.toolking.com/products/1089720.aspx?googlebase=W89720

www.electotronics.com/thermohawkq3i-th420420seriesinfrarednon-contactthermometer.aspx

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