



Lindsay Porter



One of the UK's leading motoring and caravanning technical writers, Lindsay Porter started caravanning with his wife Shan some 30 years ago. He has written and published Caravan, Trailer and Motorhome manuals. Visit PorterPublishing.com

Fitting a shower tray

Whether you're replacing a cracked shower tray or fitting one for the first time, here's how it's done

THE JOB

We fitted a C.A.K. Tanks shower tray to a caravan that had never had one before. There are several different precautions that need to be taken, but the work required as much thinking as doing.

WHY DO THIS JOB?

There are a number of potential reasons. If you've got a damaged shower tray that needs replacing, if you're planning on

changing the layout of your caravan, if you're fitting a new shower tray where there hasn't been one before to improve your van, or if you need to repair damp ingress. It helps to know how it all fits together before getting started.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

C.A.K. Tanks stock quite a range of shower trays in various shapes and sizes. Ours cost a very reasonable £66.81.

How to fit a shower tray



1 The last thing you want from a shower tray is a leak. This one is made to complement the shape of the commonly fitted Thetford C400 toilet.



2 There's an upstand moulded into the back of the C.A.K. shower tray and a recess in the front panel of the Thetford toilet that slots over the upstand.



3 This had been a cloakroom but the floor was a peculiar shape and had to be levelled by fitting appropriately shaped pieces of marine plywood.



6 We were lucky to have a Clarke hydraulic car hoist to raise the caravan. Otherwise, you must jack onto axle stands and support very safely.



7 Now we could see that the drain had to be fitted to the inboard side of the shower tray so used the correct size of hole cutter from above...



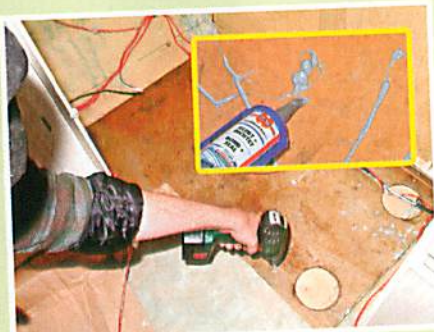
8 ...until the centre drill just appeared below, then moved the cutter to the underfloor. The cutter size depends on the size of the waste outlet.



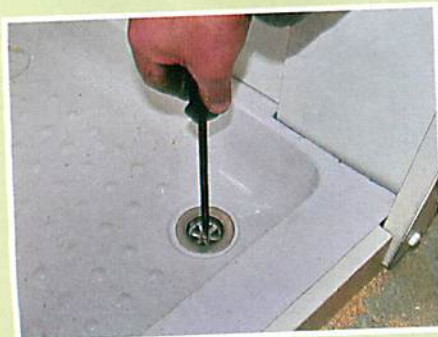
The shower tray fits seamlessly into a space that was a cloakroom



4 The floor flexed so we reinforced it with a steel sheet. Not yet knowing which side the drain would have to go, we cut an access hole on each side.



5 The stainless steel sheet was fixed with my old favourite, Würth Bond and Seal, and held down with screws while the sealant set.



9 The waste outlet, with stub to attach the drain hose, is held from beneath while the grille and seal are fitted above with the central fixing screw.



10 This job may need the help of an expert! C.A.K.'s proprietor Jonathan Frost demonstrates some of the pipes available.

Lindsay says...

C.A.K.'s Universal C400 Shower Tray is one of about a dozen shower trays in the range, fittings connected with the water works being C.A.K.'s speciality.

This particular unit is made to slot seamlessly onto a Thetford C400 toilet unit. When installing a shower tray where none has gone before, you almost certainly have to be prepared to cut-and-shut the shower tray you buy to make it fit the space available.

Cutting vacuum-formed plastic is easy with a jigsaw but you must support it to eliminate any risk of cracking and protect the surface so you don't scratch it.

Useful contacts

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