



## BM PRO DEFINITIONS | TIPS FOR ADDING ADDITIONAL CHARGERS TO YOUR RV'S SET-UP

### WHY DO I NEED AN ADDITIONAL CHARGER?

Many major Australian caravan companies supply a charger with the purchase of a caravan. This supplied charger however is often not powerful enough to charge an RV user's battery quickly enough within an appropriate time frame.

Caravan owners can choose to charge their batteries at powered sites, but this is often a risky or expensive option during peak camping times. This is where adding additional chargers for your RV setup can be beneficial.

### HOW DO I INSTALL AN ADDITIONAL CHARGER AND WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR?

Additional power for caravans is accessed mainly from the use of additional chargers, solar panels or a combination of both. The only way you can add an additional charger to your RV's electrical setup is physically purchasing one (or more) and integrating the charger into your battery setup.

Because overcharging your battery can seriously damage your expensive investment (think of it as overcooking a battery), it's important to invest wisely in a charger if you're serious about having extra power on the road.

A smart battery charger will optimise the rate the battery is charged at – so you get the quickest charge with the least potential damage to your battery. Charges should also automatically stop when the battery has reached full charge and smarter, modern chargers often include reverse pulse technology, which can help reduce a battery's temperature when charging.

### HOW LONG WILL MY BATTERY TAKE TO CHARGE?

Charging time is dependent on two factors – your battery capacity (the number of amp hours) and the charge current of your battery (amperage).

Below is an example of the possible charge times, per battery, based on continuous charging with an initial battery voltage greater than 10.5V.

| Charge Current | Battery Capacity | Charging Times |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 15 A           | 100 Ah           | 8 hours        |
|                | 200 Ah           | 16 hours       |
| 30 A           | 100 Ah           | 4 hours        |
|                | 200 Ah           | 8 hours        |
|                | 300 Ah           | 12 hours       |

**Disclaimer:** different brands of products are not made to interact together and therefore may react differently than expected. Although additional chargers can work together, we recommend you talk to the manufacturer or your local auto electrician before setting up an additional charger in your caravan.