PHRED SEZ.....

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Closet Modifications

I am always looking for more storage space for clothing. I suppose it is because I do not like to spend time in a Laundromat and that subconsciously drives me to pack more changes of clothing, thereby stretching the washing interval. In any event **Larry Jones, WBCCI #9805**, showed me the following idea for increased closet storage. I immediately made this improvement to our Airstream.

Larry noted that shoes and other things in the bottom of the closet were a jumbled mess and needed some organization. In addition there was wasted space between the top of the shoe pile and the bottom of the hanging clothes. His idea was to install white wire grate shelving so he could arrange shoes on the top and slide plastic storage bins underneath. (see photo #1) At the same time there needed to be some space where full length dresses could be stored without wrinkling their bottoms. The photo shows such a space on the left.

Photo #1

Of course, the installation will need to be custom fit for your particular trailer or motorhome dimensions. In our application we had two closet doors and the closet was about 24 inches deep. **Wal-Mart** had various sized storage bins, but a pair of ***Sterilite*** 28-quart transparent storage bins with white opaque lids were the largest that could slide straight in from each door. They were 6.5 inches high, 17 wide, and 23 deep. With these purchased we went to ***Lowe's Home Improvement Store*** and bought a 6-foot length of 20 inch deep ***Closetmade*** close mesh shelving. This shelving is available in a variety of lengths and widths. I used slightly more than 4 feet to run the width of our two-door closet. It is mounted upside down to utilize the front lip so things don't slide off and is attached to the walls with screws and little strips of aluminum at about 7.5 inches above the floor to allow easy storage bin movement underneath. If you want to be able to take the lid off without pulling the bin out, allow slightly more than 7.5 inches above the floor to mount the shelf. The shelving can be custom fit around corners or obstructions utilizing wire cutters and a hack saw. (see photo #2)

Photo #2

The increased storage is especially welcomed. Dirt off the shoe soles can't fall into the bins because of the lids. Things used infrequently can be stored beside the bins and can be seen through the close mesh shelving. In order to pack more shoes on the shelves, we find that storing each pair on their side (as they were originally packed in the shoe box when new) is most efficient.

In photo #2 you also see the base of a wood center support for the over-four-foot-long closet rod. The original support hung from the ceiling (see photo

Photo #3

The new book, Phred Sez - the First Ten Years, is now available on computer CD (written in Microsoft Works and also Microsoft Word). Order by mail for yourself or for loved ones by sending a check for $15 each (includes shipping)

Help me with topics for the PHRED SEZ column. Send your creative experiences and ideas by US mail, E-Mail, Fax, or phone:

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