

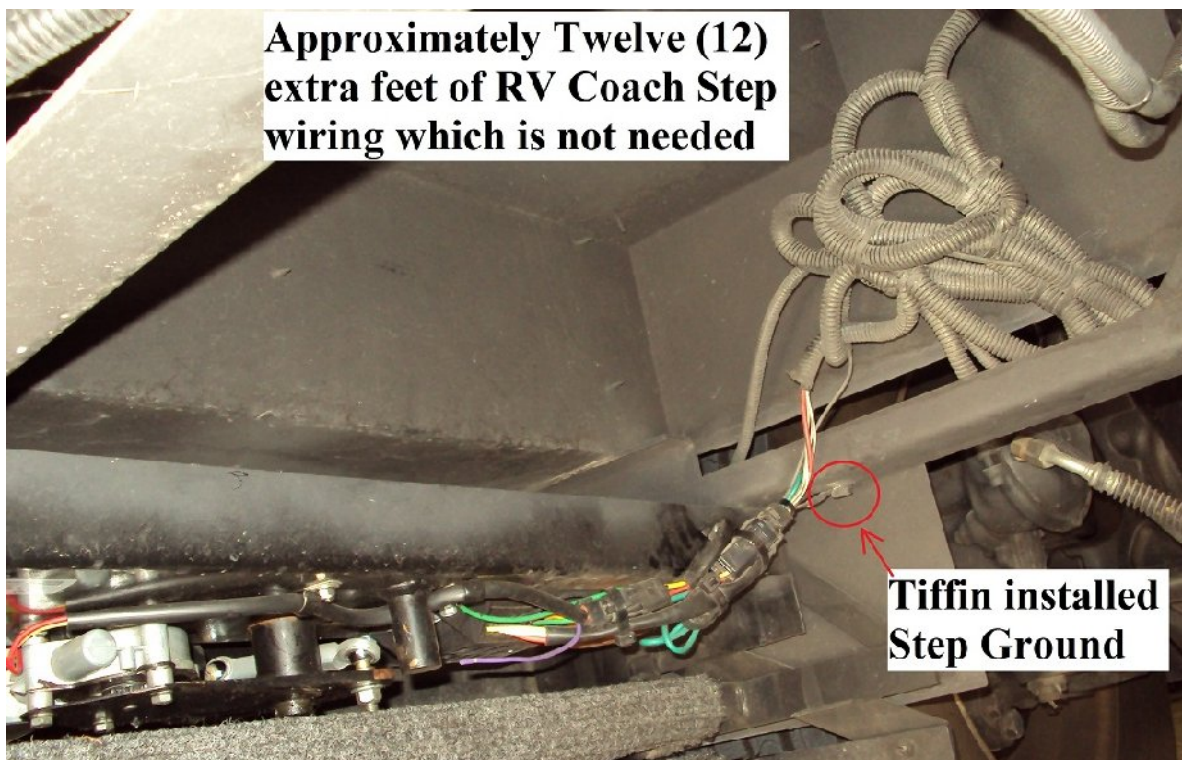


2010 43QGP Allegro Bus

9/26/2012

61 – FYI – RV STEP MAINTENANCE – GROUNDS (COACH STEP).

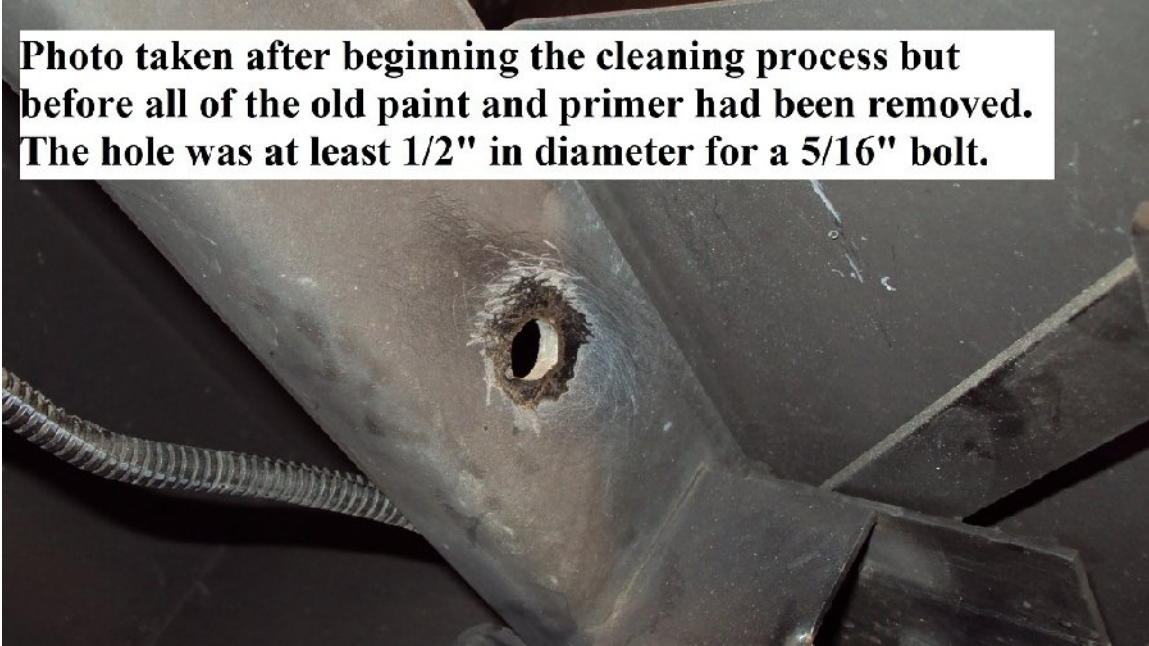
While checking on an intermittent RV step operation it was determined the most likely cause was going to be the method Tiffin used for grounding the RV steps electrical system. As noted in the below photo Tiffin made this wiring harness at least 12 feet longer than necessary. The split loom was removed to make sure the wiring was intact without splices or damage before continuing. Tiffin used the best wiring and insulation for this project as a result I decided not to remove the excess wiring which had been my initial plan, a plan which would have resulted in splicing the wiring.



After checking the step mechanism, magnetic reed switch, and wiring the ONLY problem found was the method of making the ground. Tiffin installed a steel bolt with one galvanized washer in an oversized hole, the reed switch and step mechanism grounds were both connected to this bolt. That might have been okay **IF** Tiffin had taken the time to clean the paint and primer from the step's steel assembly before making the ground connection.

After removing the old ground hardware the steel around the ground connection was cleaned of all paint and primer before the metal was sanded in order to provide a clean surface for the new ground connection.

Photo taken after beginning the cleaning process but before all of the old paint and primer had been removed. The hole was at least 1/2" in diameter for a 5/16" bolt.



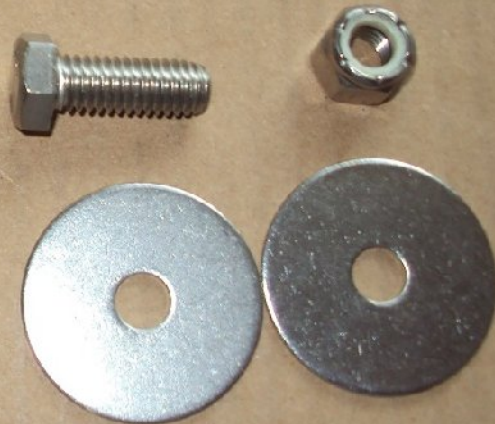
At this point a decision was made to install stainless steel hardware to prevent any future corrosion or rust causing a grounding problem.

Tiffin's Galvanized Steel Hardware for the RV steps ground



Washer was cleaned prior to deciding to replace with Stainless

New Stainless Steel fender washers, bolt and nylock nut for grounding the RV steps



Old ground hardware removed, paint and primer removed from the RV steps steel structure then new stainless steel hardware installed



As you see in the above photo the new ground connection has clean steel under the washers. After the hardware was installed and tightened the hardware was sprayed top and bottom with a coat of Battery Terminal Protector to prevent road salts or rust from reducing the effectiveness of the NEW ground connection.

New Hardware sprayed with Battery Terminal Protector

