



CAREFREE

# SL WINDOW AWNING

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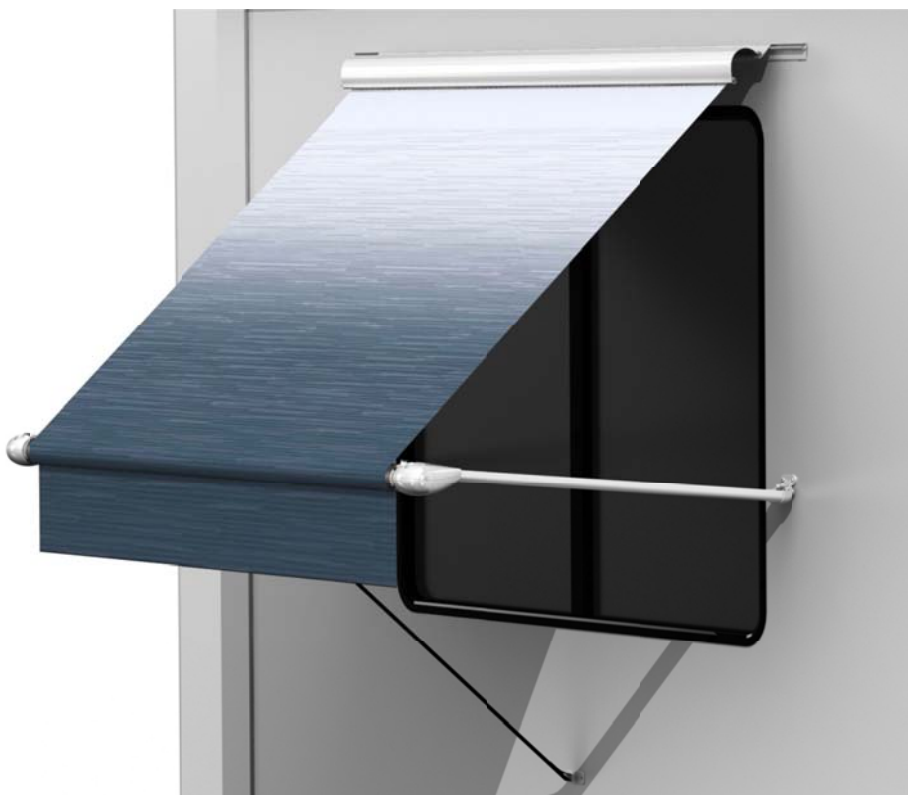
## MANUAL PULL DOWN WINDOW AWNING

RV



**Before operating the awning, carefully review the Owner's Manual. The manual contains important safety information, detailed operating instructions, common maintenance procedures and other useful information.**

### *Installation and Operations Manual*



## PROPRIETARY STATEMENT

The SL Window Awning is a product of Carefree of Colorado, located in Broomfield, Colorado, USA. The information contained in or disclosed in this document is considered proprietary to Carefree of Colorado. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information presented in the document is accurate and complete. However, Carefree of Colorado assumes no liability for errors or for any damages that result from the use of this document.

The information contained in this manual pertains to the current configuration of the models listed on the title page. Earlier model configurations may differ from the information given. Carefree of Colorado reserves the right to cancel, change, alter or add any parts and assemblies, described in this manual, without prior notice.

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## SAFETY INFORMATION



**This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert individuals to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible personal injury or death.**



**Indicates a hazardous situation, which if not avoided, could result in death or serious bodily injury.**



**Indicates a hazardous situation, which if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate bodily injury.**



**Indicates a situation that may result in equipment-related damage.**

### General Safety:



**Shock Hazard. Always disconnect battery or power source before working on or around the electrical system.**



**Always wear appropriate safety equipment (i.e. goggles).**



**Always use appropriate lifting devices and/or helpers when lifting or holding heavy objects.**



**When using fasteners, do not over tighten. Soft materials such as fiberglass and aluminum can be "stripped out" and lose the ability to grip and hold.**

### CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65



**This product contains chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer or birth defects or other reproductive harm. California's Proposition 65 requires this warning to be given to customers in the state of California.**

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

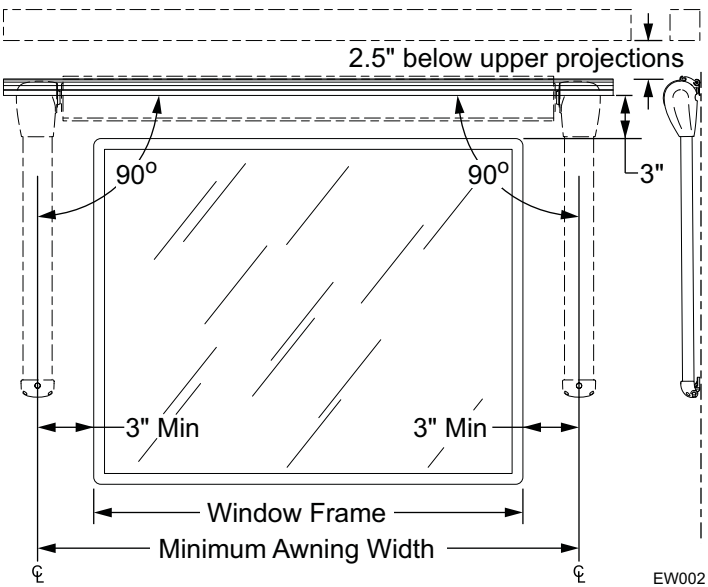
The SL Window awning is a manual extend/retract awning styled to match Carefree's Eclipse Patio Awning.

- Window awnings are available in 6 inch increments from 3 feet to 7 feet and in 12 inch increments from 7 feet to 15 feet.

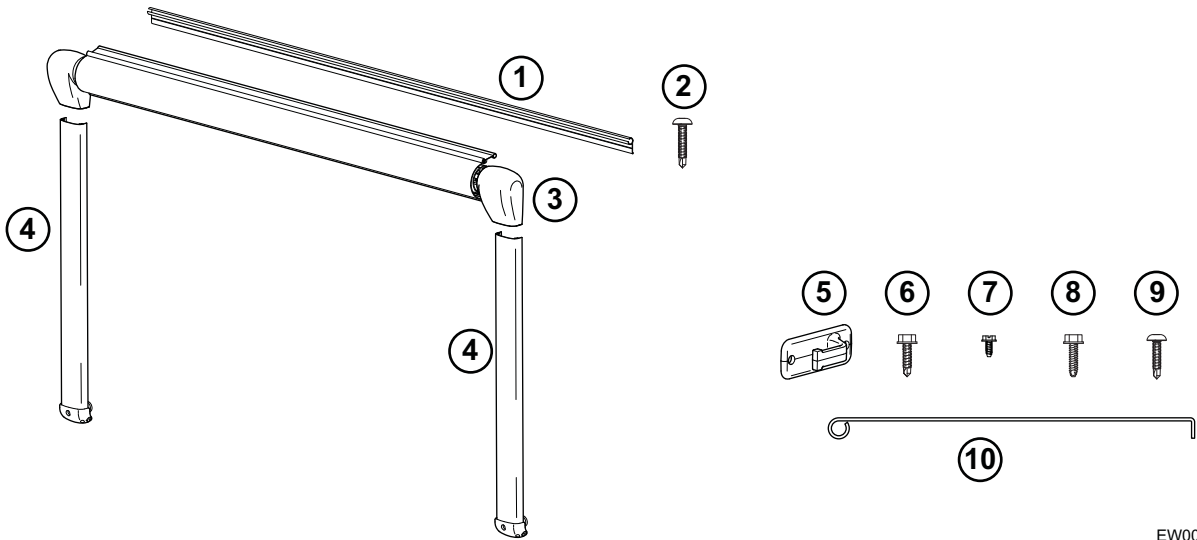
Measure the width of the window, including the frame. Add 6" for mounting brackets. This is the minimum required width of the awning. Use the awning length one increment above the minimum required width.

*Example:* Window and frame measures 35" adding 6" equals 41". The correct awning width would be 42".

- Available in vinyl and acrylic fabrics.
- The optional Carefree Uniguard® metal wrap system is available to protect the awning from inclement weather conditions.  
If Uniguard is installed, the awning requires 2.5" clearance below any projections above the window awning (i.e. window awning is mounted below a patio awning).
- An XL model is available for windows with 36" or more height.



COMPONENT CHECKLIST



|                                     |      |                                                    |                    | EW001 |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ITEM | DESCRIPTION                                        |                    | QTY   | NOTE |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 1    | Awning Rail                                        |                    | 1     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2    | Screw, Truss Head Square Drive, Awning Rail Attach | #10 x 1            | NOTE  | 1    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 3    | Roller Assembly                                    |                    | 1     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 4    | Arm Assembly                                       |                    | 2     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 5    | Pull Strap Catch                                   |                    | 1     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 6    | Screw, Hex Washer Head                             | #10 x 3/4          | 2     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 7    | Screw, Hex Washer Head                             | #6 x 3/8           | 2     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 8    | Screw, Hex Washer Head, Stainless Steel            | #10 x 3/4          | 2     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 9    | Screw, Truss Head Square Drive                     | #8 x 1             | 6     |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 10   | Pull Cane                                          | Ordered Separately | 1     |      |

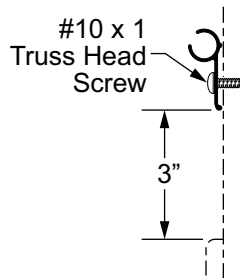
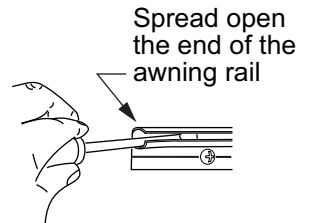
**NOTE:** 1. Quantity for screw (item 2) depends on length of awning. Under 8' = 17; 8'-12' 11" = 38; 13' and longer = 50.

## INSTALLATION

### INSTALLING THE AWNING RAIL

Page 1 shows the general installation layout for the SL Window Awning.

1. Park the vehicle on a flat surface and level the unit.
2. Thoroughly clean the vehicle walls where the arms and awning rail are to be attached. Remove any old caulking or sealant.
3. Determine the optimum positioning of the awning so that the arms will not interfere with the window frame or light fixtures.
4. The bottom of the awning rail must be a minimum of 3 inches above the window frame.
5. The awning rail must be level.
6. After determining mounting position, mark the position with a chalk line.
7. Seal the back of the rail with silicone sealant or putty tape.
8. Align the awning rail onto the wall and secure with the supplied truss head #10 x 1" screws. The awning rail must be installed with the slot pointing up.



EW005

**NOTICE** Make sure the screws are securely mounted to the structural frame of the vehicle.

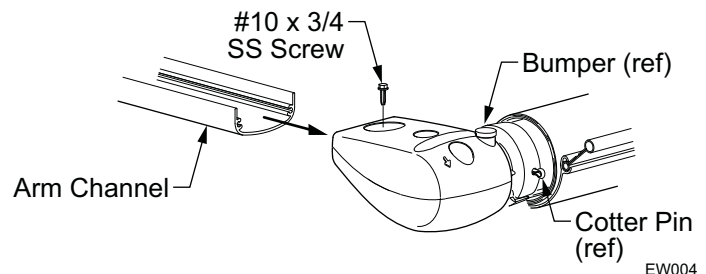
9. Use a screwdriver to spread open one end of the awning rail track on the installation side.
10. File any sharp edges or burrs from the end of the rail. This will help protect the awning fabric from damage during installation.
11. Spray inside the awning rail track with silicone lubricant.

### INSTALLING THE AWNING

#### NOTES:

- The illustrations show the Uniguard. The instructions apply to awnings with or without Uniguard.
- Screws used to mount the components of the awning must go into structure. If there is no structure at the mounting location, drill a 7/32" hole through the skin and use 3/16" moly rivet (not included).

1. Assemble the arms and roll bar assembly.
  - Slide the arm into the end cap.
  - Secure using one #10 x 3/4 stainless steel screw through the back of the end cap.
  - Repeat for the other arm.



EW004

2. (refer to Detail A) With one person holding each arm, a third person should thread the polyrod (the plastic rod on the edge of the fabric) into the awning rail. Carefully move across the vehicle, gently pulling the fabric into the rail until the awning is centered over the window.

**NOTE:** While the awning fabric is fairly robust, exercise care to not snag it on the awning rail.

3. (refer to Detail B) Position the arms. The bumper pad on the back of the end caps must align and contact the flat portion of the awning rail and should be approximately 1/8" below the rail protrusion.

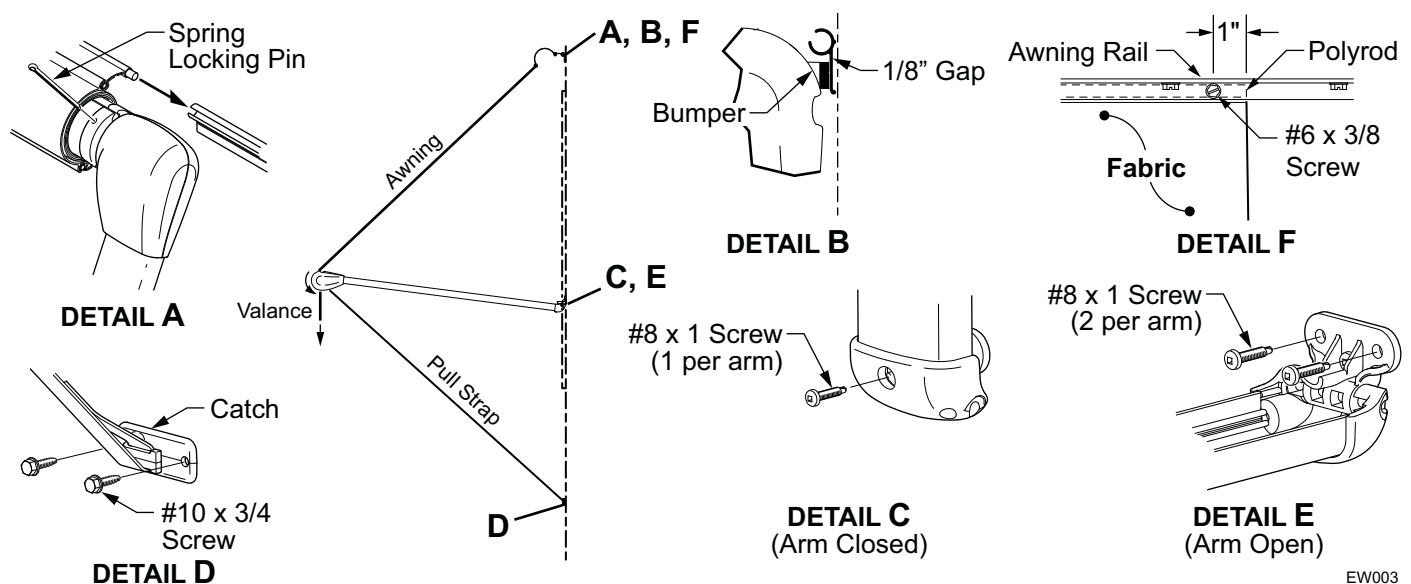
**NOTE:** If an awning rail screw interferes with the bumper, it will be necessary to remove the screw. The bumper must set flat on the flat portion of the awning rail.

*Tip: Make a temporary 1/8" shim to position the bumper during installation. (Refer to Detail B)*

4. (Refer to Detail C) Ensure that the arm is perpendicular to the awning rail. Secure the lower mounting bracket using one #8 x 1 truss head screw through the access hole in the end cap of the arm.
5. Repeat step 4 for the second arm. Make sure that the rollbar is parallel with the awning rail and that the arm is perpendicular to the awning rail.
6. Remove the spring locking pins from each end of the roll bar.

**NOTICE** Failure to remove the spring locking pins before attempting to open the awning can cause damage to the awning and/or coach.

7. Carefully open the awning by pulling down on the pull strap.
8. Horizontally position the pull strap on the rollbar.
9. (refer to Detail D) Insert the pull strap catch into the loop of the pullstrap.
10. Hold the awning arms with the valance pointing down from the bottom of the roller tube. While holding the pull strap taut and position the catch against the coach wall; then attach the catch using two (2) #10 x 3/4 screws.
11. (refer to Detail E) With the awning open, finish attaching the lower brackets. Secure using two (2) #10 x 1 truss head screws for each arm.
12. Open and close the awning several times. This is to center the awning in the awning rail.
13. (refer to Detail F) To secure the canopy, place a #6 x 3/8 screw through awning rail, polyrod and canopy approximately 1 inch from the end of the fabric.



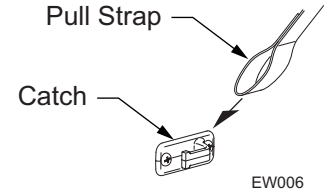
EW003

## OPERATION

*To Lower the Awning:* Using the pull cane, hook or grasp the pull strap and pull the awning down. Hook the loop of the pull strap onto the catch.

*Tip: During windy conditions, the strap may vibrate and "hum". To reduce this effect, twist the strap 1 turn before hooking onto the catch.*

*To Raise the Awning:* Remove the pull strap from the catch and untwist if necessary. Allow the awning to roll up while holding onto the strap.



**CAUTION** Do not release the strap until the awning is against the coach wall. Releasing the strap early will cause the awning to slam against the wall causing damage to the awning and/or vehicle.

*Tip: When rolling up the awning, hold the end of the pull strap off center. This keeps the strap from rolling up on itself causing stretch marks in the fabric. This also reduces the amount of strap that hangs below the roller in the travel position.*

## CLEANING



**NOTICE** Do not use oil based cleaners or any caustic, granulated, or abrasive type cleaners on your Carefree product.

1. One of the best ways to keep the fabric looking good and to delay the need for deep or vigorous cleanings is to hose fabrics off on a monthly basis with clear water. This practice will help prevent dirt from becoming deeply imbedded in the fabric. In most environments, a thorough cleaning will be needed every two to three years.
2. When it's time for a thorough cleaning, the fabric can be cleaned while on the awning frame.
  - For Vinyl Fabric – Use a soft brush and warm water with soap.
  - For Acrylic Fabric – Use a stiff brush and warm water with soap.
3. When cleaning the fabric, it is important to observe the following:
  - Always use a natural soap. Never detergent.
  - Water should be cold to lukewarm. Never more than 100 degrees.
  - Air-dry only. Never apply heat to the fabric.

### Mildew

Mildew is a fungus growth that looks like dirt. Vinyl coated polyester fabrics are mildew resistant because of a chemical biocide in the vinyl coating. Under ordinary conditions, mildew will not appear. However, in areas where high temperature and humidity are common, mildew can be a problem and require the material to be washed more frequently. THOROUGHLY rinse the fabric with clean water and allow to air dry completely before rolling up the awning.

### Leaking

On vinyl canopies, side hems and poly cords are stitched in with a sewing machine. On occasion, this stitching may allow water to seep or leak through the stitches. This is normal and not a defect covered by warranty. Treat the seams with a quality seam sealer.

## ARM CARE

The best method of keeping the arms operating smoothly is to clean them. Dirt and debris can cause the arms not to move easily. Periodically wash out the channels with running water (i.e. a hose) to keep them clean. If the arms still do not move easily, lightly spray the joints with a dry silicone lubricant after the arms have been cleaned and dried thoroughly.

### Hardware Maintenance

- Replace any parts that become damaged.
- Periodically check all mounting hardware, screws, lags, etc., and re-tighten when necessary.

# CAREFREE WINDOW AWNING

## OWNER'S MANUAL/INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

052769-004

THIS MANUAL CONTAINS SECTIONS FOR: SAFETY, INSTALLATION, OPERATION, CARE AND MAINTENANCE AND WARRANTY-CUSTOMER MUST RECEIVE THIS MANUAL UPON INSTALLATION.

**READ ENTIRE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION. FOLLOW ALL CAUTIONS, WARNINGS AND NOTES TO PREVENT INJURY OR DAMAGE TO AWNING OR VEHICLE.**

### TOOLS AND SUPPLIES REQUIRED:

Drill  
1/8" Drill Bit  
7/32" Drill Bit  
3/32" Drill Bit  
Putty Tape or Silicone Sealer  
Pop Rivet Gun  
5/16" Socket/Nut Driver  
1/4" Socket/Nut Driver

## SECTION 1: SAFETY INFORMATION

**CAUTION:** Means a hazard that may cause minor or moderate injury if the warning is ignored. It also may mean a hazard that will cause damage to property.

**CAUTION:** DO NOT RELEASE STRAP UNTIL THE AWNING IS AGAINST THE VEHICLE IN ITS RETRACTED POSITION. THE SPRING RETURN WILL VIOLENTLY ROLL UP AWNING RESULTING IN A SLAM AGAINST VEHICLE AND POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO RV OR AWNING.

**CAUTION:** DO NOT USE BLEACH, CAUSTIC CLEANERS, VINYL CLEANERS OR METAL CLEANERS ON ACRYLIC AS THEY WILL CAUSE PERMANENT DAMAGE TO FABRIC

## SECTION II: INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS

**IMPORTANT NOTE: BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION, BE SURE TO READ ALL STEPS BELOW TO ENSURE THAT THE WINDOW AWNING IS PROPERLY INSTALLED AND CORRECT SIZE IS USED.**

- Measure the width of the window including frame. Add an extra (2-1/4") to each side of the frame (4-1/2" total) to allow space for the mounting brackets. (Figure 1.)
- Window awnings are available in six inch increments from three feet to seven feet, and in one foot increments from 8' to 16'. Choose an awning length one size above the measured length. Example: Window and frame measures 35" plus 4-1/2" bracket allowance equals 39-1/2" total. A three and one-half foot (42") awning is the correct size.

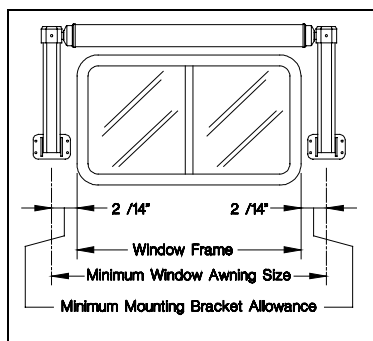


Figure 1

## SECTION III: INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. INSTALLATION OF AWNING RAIL

- Remove or slide the awning rail from the canopy. Apply sealer (putty tape or silicone) to the back surface of the rail.
- Center rail over the window with the bottom of the rail positioned 3" above the window frame. (Figure 2)

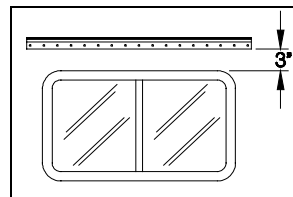


Figure 2

**NOTE: THE AWNING RAIL MUST BE INSTALLED WITH THE SLOT POINTING UP.**

- Attach rail to RV by drilling 1/8" holes into RV and fastening with supplied #10 x 3/4" hex head screws.

### 2. HANGING WINDOW AWNING

- Attach each arm assembly to the roller assembly by inserting arm extrusion into the end cap casting. Secure using #10 x 3/4" black hex head screws.
- Remove tape from roller assembly and unwrap enough material or aluminum, to allow for easy insertion into the awning rail.

**NOTE: THE SPRINGS ARE PRE-WOUND WITH THE CORRECT NUMBER OF TURNS FOR THE SIZE OF THE ROLLER ASSEMBLY. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO WIND SPRINGS DURING INSTALLATION.**

- Slide Entire window awning into awning rail and center over window.

- Carefully remove cotter pins from each end.  
**CAUTION: THE COTTER PINS ARE HOLDING THE PREWOUND TENSION ON THE ROLLER ASSEMBLY. CARE MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT ANY DAMAGE OR INJURY WHEN REMOVING THESE PINS.**

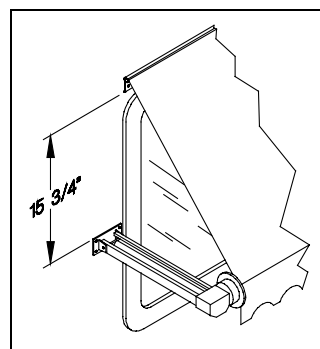


Figure 3

### 3. MOUNTING BOTTOM BRACKETS

- A. Align the arms parallel with the window frame, (or vertical if the window edge is not plumb).
- B. Place the top of the bottom bracket 15-3/4" below the bottom of the awning rail. (Figure 3.)
- C. Verify that the roller end cap is positioned just below the bottom of the awning rail slot and resting against the protective bumper. (Figure 4)

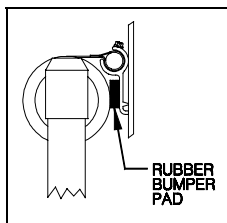


Figure 4

- D. Drill 1/8" holes into the RV and secure bracket with #10 x 3/4" black hex head screws. If there is no support behind the skin of the RV then drill 7/32" holes and secure bottom brackets using 3/16" molly rivets. (not supplied)

### 4. INSTALLING PULL STRAP CATCH

- A. After both brackets are installed, open the awning to its full extension by pulling down on the pull strap.
- B. Insert the pull strap catch into the loop of the strap.
- C. Position the strap vertically and under proper tension mark the mounting hole(Figure 5) location for the strap catch. Drill 1/8" holes in the RV and attach catch with either #10 x 3/4" hex head screws or 3/16" molly rivets as needed.

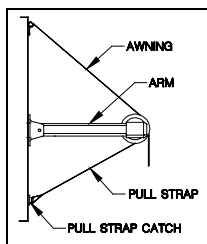


Figure 5

### 5. SECURING THE CANOPY

- A. Remove loop from catch and allow the awning to roll up to its stored position against the RV.
- B. Check to see that the arms are aligned properly allowing the canopy to roll up straight.
- C. Drill two 3/32" holes through awning rail, polycord and canopy approximately 2" from each end of canopy. Secure canopy using a #6 x 3/8" Hex Head screws. **NOTE: FOR ACRYLIC CANOPY AWNINGS: ACRYLIC CANOPY AWNINGS WITH ALUMAGUARD SLATTED BY INSTALLING THE #6 X 3/8" SCREWS OUTSIDE OF THE ALUMAGUARD --NOT THROUGH IT!**

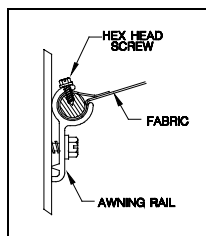


Figure 6

## SECTION IV: OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. TO EXTEND AWNING

Grasp or hook the pull strap loop and unroll the awning. Hook the loop onto the pull strap catch.

### 2. TO RETRACT AWNING:

Remove loop from pull strap catch and allow the awning to roll up to its stored position against the vehicle. (See Important Note Below)

**CAUTION: DO NOT RELEASE STRAP UNTIL THE AWNING IS AGAINST THE VEHICLE IN ITS RETRACTED POSITION. THE SPRING RETURN WILL VIOLENTLY ROLL UP AWNING RESULTING IN A SLAM AGAINST VEHICLE AND POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO RV OR AWNING.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: YOUR CAREFREE WINDOW AWNING IS EQUIPPED WITH A LONGER PULL STRAP. THE LONGER LENGTH WILL GIVE YOU GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN MOUNTING THE STRAP HOOK AND ADJUSTING YOUR WINDOW AWNING.**

**WHEN ROLLING UP YOUR WINDOW AWNING, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU REMOVE THE STRAP FROM THE CATCH AND HOLD THE LOOPED END 14" TO 18" OFF CENTER AS YOU ALLOW THE AWNING TO ROLL UP.**

**THIS WILL ENSURE THAT THE STRAP DOES NOT ROLL-UP ON ITSELF AND CAUSE A PERMANENT DIMPLE OR STRETCH MARK IN THE AWNING FABRIC. THIS WILL ALSO KEEP THE AWNING STRAP FROM HANGING TOO FAR BELOW THE ROLLER IN THE TRAVEL POSITION. (THE MORE YOU MOVE THE END OF THE STRAP TO THE SIDE, THE LESS STRAP YOU'LL HAVE SHOWING BELOW THE ROLLER.)**

## SECTION V: CARE AND MAINTENANCE

### CARE OF CAREFREE WINDOW AWNINGS

#### VINYL AWNINGS

Mildew will not form on the awning material itself, but may form on the dust allowed to accumulate on the canopy. A mild cleaner (soap & water) keep your vinyl awning looking like new. Follow instructions on the container. **DO NOT USE BLEACH!**

#### ALUMAGAURD/ACRYLIC AWNINGS

A mild cleaner should be used to clean the acrylic canopy. Warm soapy solution should be used to clean the Alumaguard.

### MAINTENANCE

Like any other part of the RV, an owner should periodically inspect the awning. The following items should be checked.

- A. All mounting screws in brackets are tight.
- B. Check all pivot points for enlargement of holes or broken rivets.
- C. Check end caps for cracking, splitting.
- D. Check that awning rail is tight against coach and all screws are tight.
- E. Check canopy for loose stitching and possible shrinkage or puckering.