

# STEPPING OUT

NEED A LITTLE LIFT TO HELP YOU IN AND OUT OF YOUR CARAVAN? LINDSAY PORTER MIGHT JUST HAVE FOUND THE ANSWER...

## 1. DUKDALF MAMBO PLUS SAFETY KIT

What a whopping great set of steps! The price is high; so is build quality. They're made to be partly dismantled and folded when travelling as they won't go through a caravan door when erected. Step assembly was okay, in spite of no instructions but, surprisingly, the handle was a pain to fit. Missing parts didn't help. The safety handle (you can fit one each side) could be welcome for anyone who is infirm. Could be just what some users need.

### AT A GLANCE

**TYPICAL PRICE:** £48 (plus £18 for Safety Kit)  
**OVERALL HEIGHT (step 1/step 2):** 160mm/330mm  
**OVERALL WIDTH/DEPTH:** 690mm/630mm  
**WEIGHT:** 6.2kg  
**SUPPLIER:** Quest Leisure Products. Tel 01527 516518 or see questleisure.com

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**GOOD FOR SAFETY**

## 2. MILENCO ORIGINAL LIGHTWEIGHT ALUMINIUM DOUBLE

Three of the four sides of the base of these steps rest on the ground, so only the rear corners could possibly sink in and then only on the very softest of ground. Stability appears very good. There's no assembly required and the structure appears sound. The chequer plate aluminium steps could become relatively slippery when wet and muddy, and our sample had a sharp corner which we're told is untypical. Different sizes are available, at different prices, of course.

**LIGHT AND SIMPLE**

### AT A GLANCE

**TYPICAL PRICE:** £30  
**OVERALL HEIGHT (step 1/step 2):** 172mm/348mm  
**OVERALL WIDTH/DEPTH:** 510mm/590mm  
**WEIGHT:** 2.6kg  
**SUPPLIER:** Dinmore Caravans. Tel 01568 611481 or see dinmore-caravans.co.uk (or milenco.com)

## 3. TREM REINFORCED POLYPROPYLENE

This step just about defines the word 'ubiquitous'. Almost all caravan accessory shops seem to sell them. It's the lightest step we tested by some margin but if you're worried about it blowing away (or for extra stability) there are holes in the feet for pegging down. The step surface is well ribbed and holed for drainage. Could sink in to soft ground but the step resists tipping relatively well. Four colours available. Value = 10/10. Cachet = 1/10. You choose!

**SUPER VALUE**

### AT A GLANCE

**TYPICAL PRICE:** £6-10  
**OVERALL HEIGHT:** 230mm  
**OVERALL WIDTH/DEPTH:** 498mm/346mm  
**WEIGHT:** 1kg  
**SUPPLIER:** most caravan dealers/shops

## 4. PYRAMID PRODUCTS DOUBLE PACKSTEP

If you need a double step and you're on a tight budget, you might consider this one. There are no assembly instructions so some forward planning is needed. The open treads give good grip and come top for drainage. Although the steel construction appears strong, build quality on our sample was not so good. Some of the bolt holes didn't align, requiring modification before two of the bolts could be inserted. It's the longest, the second-heaviest, it doesn't fold – but it's very cheap.

**CHEAPEST TWIN-STEP**

### AT A GLANCE

**TYPICAL PRICE:** £15  
**OVERALL HEIGHT (step 1/step 2):** 170mm/334mm  
**OVERALL WIDTH/DEPTH:** 410mm/740mm  
**WEIGHT:** 4.2kg  
**SUPPLIER:** Discover. Tel 0845 617 0710 or see discover.co.uk (or pyramid-products.com)

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3



6

4



5



### 5. DUKDALF QUICK STEP 4

Dukdalf might sound like the love child of Gandalf and Donald Duck but build quality is the best tested. Instructions are frustratingly minimal and the pivoting feet drop off too readily, but these steps will last for ages. Stability is superb and the ribbed aluminium step grips are excellent. The centre legs could dig in to extremely soft ground – especially if you lose those feet. The lower step pivots and folds away nicely, reducing space required when travelling.



**AT A GLANCE**  
**TYPICAL PRICE:** £35  
**OVERALL HEIGHT (step 1/step 2):** 163mm/323mm  
**OVERALL WIDTH/DEPTH:** 635mm/685mm  
**WEIGHT:** 3.4kg  
**SUPPLIER:** Quest Leisure Products. Tel 01527 516518 or see questleisure.com

### 6. C.A.K. TECNO-STEP

The only non-loose step in our selection, so you can't forget to take it with you and it can't possibly tip over. However, it could get dirty when travelling and so could make your mits mucky when folding it. You need 12V power if it's an electric model. Fitting one usually requires a subframe to be added beneath the floor of the caravan to take the extra stresses. Wonderfully convenient though, as many motor caravanners already know.



**AT A GLANCE**  
**TYPICAL PRICE:** £83.07 (£150 for electric conversion)  
**OVERALL HEIGHT:** dependent on fitting  
**OVERALL WIDTH/DEPTH:** 560mm/dependent on fitting  
**WEIGHT:** 5.7kg (11.7kg with electric conversion)  
**SUPPLIER:** C.A.K. Tel 0844 414 2324 or see caktanks.co.uk

**NEXT MONTH: A SELECTION OF WATERPROOF JACKETS**