ability and cost aspects enter the picture. This contrasts with most other trailer manufacturers, who tend to think about livability and cost first, then consider how well the unit will tow. In other words, Airstream puts the emphasis on the "travel" in travel trailer; and it shows—both in the results of the design and in the price (base $23,744, test trailer $26,262).

The floorplan is basically designed for two people, but its spacious interior makes good use of its rather modest overall size. The layout in front is classic Airstream, with a sofa across the front and a folding table hinged at the wall between the sofa and the curbside door. The table is a two-piece one, with hinges in the middle, so it can be used for two when folded, or opened to provide room for four. We used a wooden folding chair that we brought along to make dining more comfortable. Folding chairs are required to take full advantage of the table's seating capacity. One or two people can sit on the sofa on one side of the table for meals, but a third person will need a chair to sit on the other side. We left the table up for travel and the folding chair in place.

Like everything else in the trailer, the chair was always in place after a day of driving, which confirms how smoothly this trailer rides.

The kitchen counter, with its stainless-steel sinks, four-burner stove and oven, is on the streetside just behind the sofa. The generous counter space is further increased by a flip-up extension. Galley storage is ample, well-positioned and nicely finished. In addition to the storage overhead—plus storage under the sink, stove and refrigerator—four good-size drawers are positioned between the sink and stove. The 6-cubic-foot refrigerator is across the aisle from the counter, making for a compact but very workable galley area.

Loss of vertical storage space in the overhead cabinets is a drawback of Airstream's rounded exterior shape. This is most noticeable in the galley. As one former Airstream owner pointed out when looking at the test trailer, "You can't even put a box of cereal upright up there." But my wife worked around this by putting those foods that come in tall boxes into different containers.

The couch, table and galley make the front half of the trailer a daytime area, while the bed and bath in back complete the accommodations. A pair of small wardrobes are positioned on either side: one next to the refrigerator and the other just across the aisle, next to the stove. Both wardrobes feature cedar panels and handy lights that are switched on when the doors are opened.

The double bed is squeezed into the rear corner on the curbside. While the thick foam mattress is firm and comfortable for sleeping and the 48 x 77-inch bed is adequate for two, getting in and out of it requires some acrobatics. Since the bed is enclosed completely on two sides and partially on the other two, there is only the one

The fold-down table, located on the wall between the sofa and the curbside door, can be used as a desk or as a dining table for up to four people. Access to and egress from the corner bed require some agility of the inside sleeper.

21′ A/S 1992 Photos by Glennian Komaguchi