

1959-1980 Airstream/Argosy Serial Number Decoder

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This Airstream/Argosy Serial Number Decoder supersedes all previously published decoders. It was created using the combined resources and knowledge of Airstream, Inc. and the Wally Byam Caravan Club International (WBCCI, a.k.a. “The Airstream Club”).

Notes:

1. This information is provided only because it may be of historical interest to Airstream enthusiasts. This information may contain errors and omissions, and it may not apply. The particulars of any specific Airstream product may vary from the information presented here. Accordingly, this information is provided as is, without any warranty of any kind, and may contain errors or omissions.
2. The years 1958 and prior are not included because Airstream production records for those years are incomplete and research is ongoing. Those years may be added in the future.
3. The years 1981 and after are not included because serial numbers adhered to the government mandated 17-digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) system. A separate document addresses those years.
4. The attached pages provide general information regarding serial number formats, lengths, and model names. Production exceptions are not documented if they only affected one or two trailers, such as a missing character in a serial number or a prototype of a new model built late in the model year prior to the formal introduction of the model.
5. For years in which the model year was not encoded as a character in the serial number, the starting and ending production sequence numbers are provided for each length and model.
6. Within documented serial number ranges, occasionally a serial number was skipped and never produced, generally because an order was cancelled before production of the unit began.
7. In the following pages, characters shown within brackets (e.g. “(I)”, “(J,S)”, “(A,B,T,D)”, etc.) in serial number formats may be:
 - a. “Optional” and thus may or may not be present in any given serial number.
 - b. An “either/or” situation where exactly one of the contained choices would be present.
 - c. Occasionally both “optional” and “either/or”.

1959

Ohio

SS9XXX

SS = 18' Pacer

9 = 1959 Model Year

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

(I)LL9XXX(F,C)

I (or 1) = International Trim Level *(if present)*

LL = Length:

- 18 = 18' Globe Trotter
- 22 = 22' Caravanner, Falcon, Flying Cloud, & World Traveler
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

9 = 1959 Model Year

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

F,C = Layout or Model: *(if present)*

- F = Falcon or Flying Cloud? (22' only, rare)
(Note: Most 1959 Ohio Falcons and Flying Clouds have no "F" suffix.)
- C = Custom *(rare)*

Serial Number Ranges:

18' Pacer: SS9001 thru SS9071,
SS9313 thru SS9328

18' Globetrotter: 189001 thru 189041C

22' Caravanner, Falcon, Flying Cloud, & World Traveler:
229001 thru 229225

24' Tradewind: 249001 thru 249187

26' Overlander: 269001 thru 269301

28' Ambassador: 289001 thru 289081

30' Sovereign: 309001 thru 309014

California

LL(T,D,S)XXXX

LL = Length:

- 18 = 18' Traveler
- 22 = 22' Flying Cloud & World Traveler
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

T,D,S = Layout:

- T = Twin Bed
- D = Double Bed
(Note: "T" or "D" may be missing on the earliest 24' and 28' models.)
- S = Special/Shell Only *(rare)*

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

18' Traveler: 18D0100 thru 18D0262

22' Flying Cloud & World Traveler: 22D0100 thru 22S0270

24' Tradewind: 24D0100 thru 24T0302

26' Overlander: 26T0100 thru 26T0253

28' Ambassador: 28D0100 thru 28T0162

30' Sovereign: 30D0100 thru 30D0110

1960

Ohio

SS0XXX

SS = 16' Pacer

0 = 1960 Model Year

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

(I)LL0XXX(T,D,F,C)

I (or 1) = International Trim Level (*if present*)

LL = Length:

- 18 = 18' Globetrotter & Caravel
- 22 = 22' Safari, Caravanner, Falcon, & Flying Cloud
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

0 = 1960 Model Year

T,D,F,C = Layout or Model:

- T = Twin Bed (*Safari Twin if 22'*)
- D = Double Bed (*Safari Double if 22'*)
(*Note: "T" or "D" not used on Globe Trotter and may be missing on other early models.*)
- F = Falcon (*22' only*)
- C = Caravanner (*22' only*) or Custom (*rare*)

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

16' Pacer: SS0330 thru SS0429

18' Globetrotter & Caravel: 180042 thru 180067

22' Safari, Caravanner, Falcon, & Flying Cloud:
220226D thru 220408D

24' Tradewind: 240188D thru 240458D

26' Overlander: 260302T thru 260596D

28' Ambassador: 280082D thru 280195T

30' Sovereign: 3000015 thru 300025D

California

LL(T,D)(S,SS)XXXX

(T,D)LL(S)XXXX (*custom, rare*)

LL = Length:

- 18 = 18' Traveler, Globester, & Comet
- 22 = 22' Flying Cloud
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

T,D = Layout:

- T = Twin Bed
- D = Double Bed

S,SS = Santa Fe Springs Plant & Self-Containment

- S = Santa Fe Springs Plant, not self-contained (*base or "park" model*)
- SS = Santa Fe Springs Plant, Self-Contained (*Land Yacht or International*)
(*Note: None early, then "S", later usually "SS".*)

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

18' Traveler, Globester, & Comet: 18D0263 thru 18DSS370

22' Flying Cloud: 22D0271 thru 22DSS0418

24' Tradewind: 24T0303 thru 24DSS0482

26' Overlander: 26T0254 thru 26TSS0429

28' Ambassador: 28T0163 thru 28TSS0223

30' Sovereign: 30T0111 thru 30TSS0123

1961

Ohio

(I)LL1XXX(T,D,F) (early)
(I)LL1(T,D)XXX (late)

I (or 1) = International Trim Level *(if present)*

LL = Length:

- 16 = 16' Bambi
- 18 = 18' Caravel
- 22 = 22' Safari & Falcon
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

1 = 1961 Model Year

T,D,F = Layout or Model:

- T = Twin Bed *(Safari Twin if 22')*
- D = Double Bed *(Safari Double if 22')*
(Note: "T" or "D" may be missing on early Bambis and Caravels.)
- F = Falcon *(22' only)*

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

16' Bambi: 161101 thru 161T163 *(1st Run Part 1)*,
 161T218 thru 161T254 *(1st Run Part 2)*,
 161T301 thru 161T350 *(2nd Run)*

18' Caravel: I181075 thru 181D100

22' Safari & Falcon: 221425T thru 221T599

24' Tradewind: 241475T thru I241D758

26' Overlander: I261601T thru I261D865

28' Ambassador: I281201T thru I281T308

30' Sovereign: I301026T thru I301D063

California

LL(T,D,TD)(S,SS)XXXX

LL = Length:

- 16 = 16' Bambi
- 18 = 18' Traveler, Globester, & Comet
- 19 = 19' Globetrotter
- 22 = 22' Flying Cloud & Spaceliner
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

T,D,TD = Layout or Model:

- T = Twin Bed
(Note: "T" may be missing on some 19' models.)
- D = Double Bed
- TD = Bambi *(if 16')* or Spaceliner *(if 22')*
(Note: "TD" was also used on many 1961 30' Sovereigns built after January 1, 1961 though that purpose is unknown.)

S,SS = Santa Fe Springs Plant & Self-Containment

- S = Santa Fe Springs Plant, not self-contained *(base or "park" model)*
- SS = Santa Fe Springs Plant, Self-Contained *(Land Yacht or International)*

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

16' Bambi: 16TDSS1600 thru 16TDSS1794

18' Traveler, Globester, & Comet: 18TS0367 thru 18DS0377

19' Globetrotter: 19TSS1901 thru 19TSS1966

22' Flying Cloud & Spaceliner: 22TSS0419 thru 22DSS0629

24' Tradewind: 24DSS0483 thru 24TSS0649

26' Overlander: 26TSS0430 thru 26TS0553

28' Ambassador: 28TSS0224 thru 28DSS0259

30' Sovereign: 30DSS0124 thru 30TDSS0164

California

LL(T,D)(S,SS)XXXX

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

16' Bambi: 16TS1795 thru 16TSS1880
19' Globetrotter: 19TSS1967 thru 19TSS2121
22' Flying Cloud & Safari: 22TSS0630 thru 22TSS0875
24' Tradewind: 24DSS0650 thru 24DS0847
26' Overlander: 26DSS0554 thru 26TS0728
28' Ambassador: 28DSS0260 thru 28TSS0317
30' Sovereign: 30TSS0165 thru 30TSS0232

1963

Ohio

(I)LL3(T,D,F,C,S)XXX

I (or 1) = International Trim Level *(if present)*

LL = Length:

- 16 = 16' Bambi
- 19 = 19' Globetrotter
- 22 = 22' Safari & Flying Cloud
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

3 = 1963 Model Year

T,D,F,C,S = Layout or Model:

- T = Twin Bed *(Safari Twin if 22')*
- D = Double Bed *(Safari Double if 22')*
- F = Flying Cloud *(22' only)*
- C = Custom *(rare)*
- S = Special/Shell Only *(rare)*

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

16' Bambi: 163T101 thru 163T256
 19' Globetrotter: 193D101 thru 193D400
 22' Safari: 223D101 thru 223D450
 22' Flying Cloud: I223F102 thru 223F147
 24' Tradewind: I243S101 thru 243D503
 26' Overlander: I263D101 thru I263D616
 28' Ambassador: I283T101 thru I283D298
 30' Sovereign: I303D101 thru I303T238

California

LL(T,D)(S,SS)XXXX

LL = Length:

- 16 = 16' Bambi
- 19 = 19' Globetrotter
- 22 = 22' Flying Cloud & Safari
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

T,D = Layout or Model:

- T = Twin Bed *(Flying Cloud or Safari Twin if 22')*
- D = Double Bed *(Safari Double if 22')*

S,SS = Santa Fe Springs Plant

(Note: "SS" early, "S" late, all self-contained)

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

16' Bambi: 16TSS1881 thru 16TS1975
 19' Globetrotter: 19TSS2122 thru 19TS2352
 22' Flying Cloud & Safari: 22DSS0876 thru 22TS1116
 24' Tradewind: 24TSS0848 thru 24DS1055
 26' Overlander: 26DSS0729 thru 26TS0923
 28' Ambassador: 28TSS0318 thru 28TS0372
 30' Sovereign: 30TSS0233 thru 30TS0302

S-(0,1)LL4(1,2)XXXX

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

17' Bambi II: Unknown (e.g. S-017410177)
19' Globetrotter: Unknown (e.g. S-019410186)
22' Safari: Unknown (e.g. S-022410272)
24' Tradewind: Unknown (e.g. S-124410336)
26' Overlander: Unknown (e.g. S-026410603)
28' Ambassador: Unknown (e.g. S-128420181)
30' Sovereign: Unknown (e.g. S-130410152)

[illegible]

Note: 1964 California Airstreams were built significantly out of Production Sequence Number order during the first few months of production. Since the serial number format changed according to build date, serial number formats are seen intermixed as far as into the 060+ Production Sequence Number range for some models.

[illegible]

S(0,1)LL4(1,2)1XXX (*very early*)

(0,1)LL4(1,2)SLXXX (early)

(0,1)4(1,2)SLXXX (most)

- 1 = 17' Bambi II
- 2 = 19' Globetrotter
- 3 = 22' Safari
- 4 = 24' Tradewind
- 5 = 26' Overlander
- 6 = 28' Ambassador
- 7 = 30' Sovereign

(Note: Initially a "1" was used in the "L" position on all trailer lengths before this position was converted to a one-digit trailer length.)

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Ranges:

17' Bambi II: 41S1001 thru 41S1150
19' Globetrotter: S19411002 thru 41S2248
22' Safari: S022411002 thru 041S3310
24' Tradewind: S024421002 thru 042S4200
26' Overlander: S026421002 thru 042S5281
28' Ambassador: S028421001 thru 042S6065
30' Sovereign: S130421001 thru 142S7124

1960 - 1964 Commercial Trailers

LL(MI)-(S)XXX*

LLMI-MY-XXX*

Serial Number Ranges:

LL = Length:

- 20 = 20'
- 27 = 27'
- 28 = 28'
- 32 = 32'
- 33 = 33'
- 35 = 35'
- 36 = 36'
- 40 = 40'

MI = Mobile Industrial (*if present*)

MY = Model Year: (*if present*)

- 63 = 1963
- 64 = 1964

S = Santa Fe Springs Plant Location (*if present*)

XXX* = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

(*Note: May be 3-digits or 4-digits*)

Notes: It is currently believed that all 1960 commercial trailers had riveted aluminum endcaps and normal Airstream serial number badges like regular production Airstreams, though as a cost savings measure these trailers tended to use older, less expensive windows.

Most, if not all, commercial trailers from 1961 thru 1964 did not look like regular production Airstreams, instead having a slightly “squarer” appearance with fiberglass exterior endcaps that were painted silver and subtle ribbing down the sides of the trailer. These trailers had Mobile Industrial serial number badges that listed the street address of the Santa Fe Springs Airstream plant.

Generally, commercial trailers 32’ and longer were made as mobile housing for railroad crews with living/bedrooms on both ends and kitchens and bathrooms in the middle. The intended purpose of the 20’ to 28’ units is unknown.

1960

33’: 33-0100 thru 33-0114

35’: 35-S1003 thru 35-S1038

40’: 40-2001 thru 40-2012

1961

20’: 20-1000

27’: 27-1001

32’: 32-S101 thru 32-S112,

32MI-S113 thru 32MI-S124

36’: 36MI-S101 thru 36MI-S146

40’: 40-2013

1962

32’: 32MI-S125 thru 32MI-S152

36’: 36MI-S147 thru 36MI-S160

1963

27’: 27MI-S1001

28’: 28MI-S1001

32’: 32MI-S153 thru 32MI-S154,

32MI-63-1001 thru 32MI-63-1035

36’: 36MI-S161,

36MI-63-1001 thru 36MI-63-1040

1964

28’: 28MI-S1002 thru 28MI-S1004

32’: 32MI-64-1036 thru 32MI-64-1039

40’: 40-2014 thru 40-2015

1965 - 1968

(J,S)(O,I)LLYXXX (1965 thru early 1967)

(O,I)LLY(J,S)XXX (most 1967 thru 1968)

J,S = Plant Location:

- J = Jackson Center, Ohio
- S = Santa Fe Springs, California

O,I = Trim Level:

- O (or 0) = Land Yacht
- I (or 1) = International Land Yacht

LL = Length:

- 17 = 17' Caravel
- 20 = 20' Globetrotter
- 22 = 22' Safari
- 24 = 24' Tradewind
- 26 = 26' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 30 = 30' Sovereign

Y = Model Year:

- 5 = 1965
- 6 = 1966
- 7 = 1967
- 8 = 1968

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific:

- 001 thru 499 indicates twin bed layout
- 501 thru 999 indicates double bed layout

Serial Number Examples:

S0205536 = 1965 20' Globetrotter Land Yacht Double built in Santa Fe Springs

J0266124 = 1966 26' Overlander Land Yacht Twin built in Jackson Center

I287J555 = 1967 28' Ambassador International Land Yacht Double built in Santa Fe Springs

O178J151 = 1968 17' Caravel Twin built in Jackson Center

1969 - 1970

(B,O,I,)LL(T,D)Y(J,S)XXX

B,O,I = Trim Level:

- B = Special Land Yacht (1970)
- O (or 0) = Special Land Yacht (1969) & Deluxe Land Yacht
- I (or 1) = International Land Yacht

LL = Length:

- 18 = 18' Caravel
- 21 = 21' Globetrotter
- 23 = 23' Safari
- 25 = 25' Tradewind & Caravanner (1970)
- 27 = 27' Overlander
- 28 = 28' Ambassador
- 29 = 29' Ambassador
- 31 = 31' Sovereign

T,D = Layout:

- T = Twin Bed
- D = Double Bed

Y = Model Year:

- 9 = 1969
- 0 = 1970

J,S = Plant Location:

- J = Jackson Center, Ohio
- S = Cerritos, California

XXX = Production Sequence Number, Model Specific

Serial Number Examples:

O18D9S582 = 1969 18' Caravel Special Land Yacht Double built in Cerritos

B21D0S138 = 1970 21' Globetrotter Special Land Yacht Double built in Cerritos

O23D0J101 = 1970 23' Safari Double Deluxe Land Yacht Double built in Jackson Center

127T0J115 = 1970 27' Overlander Twin International Twin built in Jackson Center

1971 - 1979

(L,I,E)LL(A,B,T,D,G,H)Y(J,S)XXXX

L,I,E = Trim Level:

- L = Land Yacht, Deluxe Land Yacht, and Romany
- I (or 1) = International Land Yacht
- E = Excella 500

LL = Length:

- 18 = 18' Caravel (1971)
- 21 = 21' Globetrotter (1971-77)
- 23 = 23' Safari
- 25 = 25' Tradewind & Caravanner (1971, 1976-78)
- 27 = 27' Overlander (1971-77)
- 28 = 28' Ambassador (1978-79)
- 29 = 29' Ambassador (1971-77)
- 31 = 31' Sovereign, Excella 500 & Romany (1975)

A,B,T,D,G,H = Layout:

- A = Twin Bed, Center Bath
- B = Double Bed, Center Bath
- T = Twin Bed, Rear Bath
- D = Double Bed, Rear Bath
- G = Twin Bed, Rr Bath, Curbside Gaucho (1977)
- H = Double Bed, Rr Bath, Curbside Gaucho (1977)

Y = Model Year:

- 1 = 1971
thru
- 9 = 1979

J,S = Plant Location:

- J = Jackson Center, Ohio
- S = Cerritos, California

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Plant Specific

Serial Number Examples:

E31T2J3790 = 1972 31' Excella 500 Twin Bed, Rear Bath built in Jackson Center

L25D3S2526 = 1973 25' Tradewind Land Yacht Double Bed, Rear Bath built in Cerritos

I27D4J1501 = 1974 27' Overlander International Land Yacht Double Bed, Rear Bath built in Jackson Center

131A5S1852 = 1975 31' Sovereign International Land Yacht Twin Bed, Center Bath built in Cerritos

1972-79 Argosy

(A)LL(A,B,T,D,R)Y(V,S,J)XXXX(C)

A = Argosy (*if present, rare*)

LL = Length:

- 20 = 20' (Minuet 6.0 Metre in 1977-79)
- 22 = 22' (Minuet 6.7 Metre in 1978-79)
- 24 = 24' (Minuet 7.3 Metre in 1979)
- 26 = 26' (1972-77)
- 27 = 27' (1978-79)
- 28 = 28' (1974-77)
- 30 = 30' (1978-79)

A,B,T,D,R = Layout:

- A = Twin Bed, Center Bath
- B = Double Bed, Center Bath
- T = Twin Bed, Rear Bath
- D = Double Bed, Rear Bath
- R = Rear Door

Y = Model Year:

- 2 = 1972
thru
- 9 = 1979

V,S,J = Plant Location:

- V = Versailles, Ohio
- S = Cerritos, California (1974-78)
- J = Jackson Center, Ohio (1978-79)

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Plant Specific

C = Canadian Spec. (*if present, rare*)

Serial Number Examples:

26T2V0025 = 1972 26' Argosy Twin Bed, Rear Bath built in Versailles

22R4V0849 = 1974 22' Argosy Rear Door built in Versailles

28D5V0855C = 1975 28' Argosy Double Bed, Rear Bath built in Versailles to Canadian Specifications

20D7S5365 = 1977 Argosy 6.0 Metre (20') Minuet Double Bed, Rear Bath built in Cerritos

30A9J3270 = 1979 30' Argosy Twin Bed, Center Bath built in Jackson Center

1974-79 Motorhomes

(M,B)LL(A,B,T,D,R,L)Y(V,S)XXXX

M,B = Model:

- M = Motorhome
- B = Compact Bus

LL = Length:

- 20 = 20' (1974-77)
- 24 = 24'
- 26 = 26' (1975)
- 28 = 28' (1976-79)

A,B,T,D,R,L = Layout:

- A = Twin Bed, Center Bath
- B = Double Bed, Center Bath
- T = Twin Bed, Rear Bath
- D = Double Bed, Rear Bath
- R = Rear Bath
- L = Compact Bus

Y = Model Year:

- 4 = 1974
- 5 = 1975
- 6 = 1976
- 7 = 1977
- 8 = 1978
- 9 = 1979

V,S = Plant Location:

- V = Versailles, Ohio
- S = Cerritos, California (1975-79)

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Plant Specific

Notes: 1974 thru 1978 motorhomes and buses were branded as Argosys. 1979 motorhomes were branded as Airstreams. No 1980 motorhomes were built.

Serial Number Examples:

M20D4V0178 = 1974 20' Argosy MH Double built in Versailles

M26T5S5203 = 1975 26' Argosy MH Twin built in Cerritos

B28L8V3312 = 1978 28' Argosy Compact Bus built in Versailles

M24R9V5181 = 1979 24' Airstream MH Rear Bath built in Versailles

1980

(1,2,3,4)LL(A,B,T,D)0JXXXX

1,2,3,4 = Trim Level:

- 1 = Argosy
- 2 = Excella II
- 3 = International
- 4 = Caravelle

LL = Length:

- 20 = 20' Caravelle & Argosy Minuet
- 22 = 22' Caravelle & Argosy Minuet
- 24 = 24' Caravelle & Argosy Minuet
- 25 = 25' International, Excella II, & Argosy
- 28 = 28' International, Excella II, & Argosy
- 31 = 31' International, Excella II, & Argosy

A,B,T,D = Layout:

- A = Twin Beds, Center Bath
- B = Double Bed, Center Bath
- T = Twin Beds, Rear Bath
- D = Double Bed, Rear Bath

0 = 1980 Model Year

J = Jackson Center, Ohio Plant Location

XXXX = Production Sequence Number, Plant Specific

Notes: Starting in 1980, different Airstream lengths did not receive individual model names. Instead trim level names were applied across different lengths. Very few 1980 Argosy trailers were built.

Serial Number Examples:

131A0J1102 = 1980 31' Argosy Twin Bed, Center Bath built in Jackson Center

328T0J1121 = 1980 28' Airstream International Twin Bed, Rear Bath built in Jackson Center

231T0J1151 = 1980 31' Airstream Excella II Twin Bed, Rear Bath built in Jackson Center

422D0J1484 = 1980 22' Airstream Caravelle Double Bed, Rear Bath built in Jackson Center