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BLUE POWER



A Self-Sufficient Tiny Home to Travel the Country in.

How one couple energizes their adventures with solar power.

Devin and Breanna love DIY projects, the great outdoors, and entertaining guests... all from their school bus. Of course, this is no ordinary school bus. A warm shower, a comfortable kitchen, a gaming PC, and more equips this bus with all the comforts of a good home.

What started as a DIY tiny home transformed Devin and Breanna's lives into a never-ending adventure. Their aptly named "Skoolie" bus has traveled from the peaks of Acadia National Park in Maine to the beaches of Baja, Mexico. Their newfound freedom is thanks to several DIY systems. However, none enables them like their **2000W solar power system.**

"*Once the sun goes down, we rely one hundred percent on our **Dakota Lithium Batteries***," explains Devin

"... it's a little scary to do anything outside the normal, but it's very often one of the most rewarding things you can do. So, the best advice we could give is to overtake your fears."

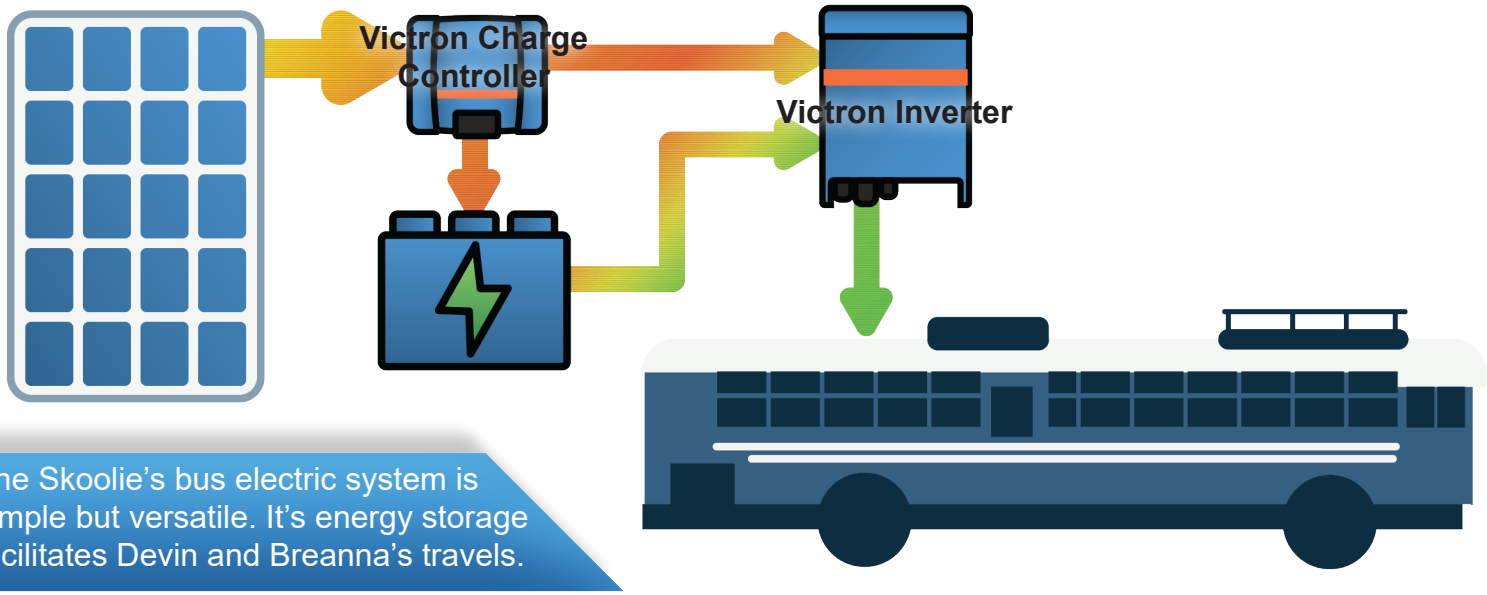
~ Devin and Breanna O'Dell (@basicallynomads)

Devin and Breanna (pictured above) travel full-time in their renovated school bus with their cat and dog. You can follow their adventures on Instagram, Facebook, and Youtube under Basically Nomads.

Energize Your Ambition

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The Skoolie's bus electric system is simple but versatile. It's energy storage facilitates Devin and Breanna's travels.

Originally the Skoolie bus ran off 6 heavy, leak-prone lead-acid batteries. The couple thankfully replaced those bulky, lead-acid batteries with the much lighter and more powerful **Dakota Lithium Batteries.** They provide the Skoolie bus with over 600 amp hours of power, enough for everything from the fridge to the lights to the plumbing.

When Devin and Breanna first completed their tiny home in 2018, they were limited to 740 watts of solar panels. So when boondocking, they relied heavily on electrical hookups. Thanks to 5 **Canadian Solar solar panels**, their capabilities jumped to 2000 watts—more than enough for all their needs. On a sunny day, they can fully charge their batteries before noon. And with their batteries, Devin and Breanna can stay cozy for several rainy days.

A successful solar system is more than just batteries and panels. Tucked under a guest's bunk bed is the Skoolie bus's electrical closet, compact enough to miss at first glance.

A **Victron MPPT Solar Charge Controller** and a **Victron Inverter** are hidden away, ensuring the system runs efficiently. "*With all these components being **Victron***," says Devin, "*we can very easily monitor all of the systems from... our phones.*" So they can troubleshoot before problems arise.

If you value experiences over material goods, national parks over suburban lawns, and self-sufficiency over being tied to a grid, then a nomad's life might be calling you. Devin and Breanna have proven that living tiny and off-grid can be just as comfortable.

For those seeking this kind of rewarding lifestyle, Devin and Breanna suggest you "*just pull the trigger... what's stopping you?*" Living self-sufficiently can be terrifying and daunting. But after a lot of hard work, you'll be able to enjoy newfound freedoms and many welcoming communities.