

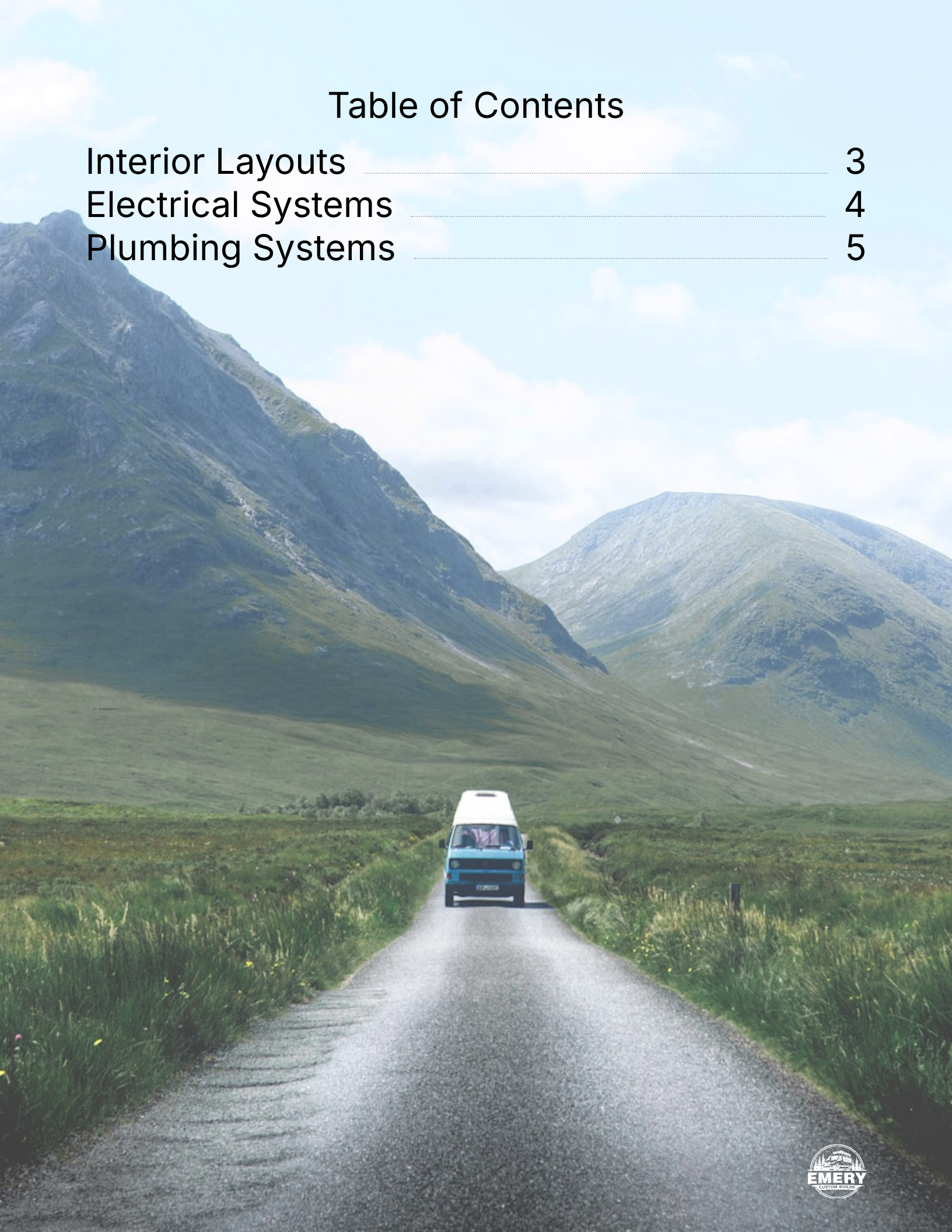
Built for Adventure: Budgeting for your van conversion

This tiered guide helps you understand what's possible at different price points — from just the basics to full-featured off-grid living — so you can choose the right build for your needs, goals, and adventures ahead.
by Emery Custom Builds



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Interior Layouts

	Basic	Standard	Luxury
Best Suited For	Minimalist setups	Frequent campers/travelers: comfort & flexibility	Full-time vanlife: max convenience
What It Supports	Basic living, cooking, & storage	Comfortable living, cooking, seating, storage	Fully-featured mobile living
Kitchenette	Pre-fab unit	Custom-built kitchenette	Full custom kitchen, backsplash
Bed System	Fixed Platform	Multi-Mode Bed	Multi-Mode or Electric Lift
Seating & Table	Benches + table	Standard multi-mode dinette	Custom multi-moe dinette
Upper Cabinets	None or open shelves	Full upper cabinets	Premium overhead cabinetry
Base Cabinets & Storage	Below bed + in benches	Custom cabinets	Deluxe custom cabinetry
Shower / Bath	None	Outdoor shower	Indoor shower stall with toilet
Flooring	Budget flooring	Mid-grade vinyl flooring	High-end flooring
Walls & Ceiling	Unfinished wood	Stained / painted wood,	Premium materials or finishing
Lighting Zones	Single zone LED puck lights	Two zones, dimmable	Multi-zone, recessed
Finishes & Hardware	Basic, exposed fasteners	Upgraded pulls, soft-close	Premium pulls, soft-close
Climate Control	Maxxair fan	2 x Maxxair fans, heater	Full climate mgmt system
Total Cost	\$5,000 - \$10,000	\$12,000 - \$20,000	\$25,000+

Electrical Systems

	Basic	Standard	Luxury
Best Suited For	Weekend trips, minimalist setups	Week-long trips, off-grid adventurers	Full-time vanlifers, heavy power users
What it Powers	Lights, fans, phone charging, and small additional 12V loads	Most or all 12V loads, plus some 120V appliances	Full-time capable, including microwave, cooktop, A/C, heater, and more
Battery Bank	100Ah AGM Battery	200Ah Lithium Battery	400Ah+ Lithium Battery
Solar Panels	200W	400W	800W+
Inverter	Not included	2000W Inverter / Charger	3000W+ Inverter / Charger
Shore Power	Not included	30A Shore Power	30A Shore Power + Auto Transfer Switch
Charge Controller	PWM Controller	MPPT Charge Controller	MPPT + Bluetooth Monitoring
DC Panel	Basic 6-circuit fuse block	12-circuit DC panel with switches	12-circuit DC panel + digital display monitoring
AC Panel	Not included	2-4 circuit AC breaker panel	Full AC panel
Wiring	Basic wiring	Marine-grade wire + loomed cables	Marine-grade wire + loomed cables
Monitoring	Voltage display	Battery monitor with display	Bluetooth battery monitoring
Total Cost	\$2000-\$4000	\$5,000 - \$10,000	\$15,000+

Plumbing Systems

	Basic	Standard	Luxury
Best Suited For	Weekend trips, minimalist setups	Regular campers / travelers wanting standard comforts	Full-time travelers, off-grid living, or vanlife with full amenities
What It Supports	Hand washing, dishes, drinking	Sink, outdoor rinse/showers	Full sink, indoor shower
Sink	Collapsible or small basin	Built-in sink	Full-size integrated sink w/ drain plumbing
Fresh Water Tank	5–7 gal jug (portable)	20–30 gal mounted tank	40–50 gal mounted tank (with sensors)
Water Pump	Manual pump	12V electric pump	12V variable-speed pump w/ accumulator
Water Heater	None	Optional 4–6 gal electric/propane heater	4–6 gal water heater
Shower	None	Outdoor shower	Indoor shower (optional)
Toilet	None	Composting / cassette toilet (optional)	Composting or cassette toilet (optional)
Grey Water System	5 gal bucket or passive drain	Passive drain or manually removable tank	20–30 gal grey tank w/ vent & remote drain
Total Cost	\$1,000 - \$3,000	\$5000 - \$10,000	\$15,000+