RV Furnace Notes

RV furnaces are both the best and the least efficient way to heat your RV. They are also the safest. They circulate and dry the air so you don’t have humidity. Your water lines should run beside the duct work so it keeps your water lines from freezing. I also have a hole in the bottom that heats my under belly around my tanks.

The furnace is a simple device. It has a few safety switches that you should be aware of:

Flame detection - detects if the ignitor has lit the propane after the solenoid opened.
Air Flow (sail switch) - detects if the blower is moving sufficient air to safely operate.

If your furnace won’t come on:
1. Turn on the furnace. The blower should run a few minutes before attempting to light the burner. If the blower doesn’t come on check 12v power level (must be over 10v), and fuses. If your furnace is older and has power, kick it or tap it hard (bearings might be stuck).
2. Turn on all the burners of your stove, and then turn on your furnace. If the flames dim when the furnace lights, you have to reset your propane tanks. The acme safety is reducing your flow to 20%. If your stove won’t light you have no propane.
3. Turn on the furnace and listen for a loud clunk/click. This is the propane solenoid opening to turn on propane flow to the furnace. If you hear a clunk but it does not light, let it cycle a few times as there could be air in the line. Sometimes take 9-10 times. Leave all the burners on the stove it will help move the air out and give you some heat.
4. No clunk, 12v power to board and blower comes on - sail switch could be bad (0nly if 1-3 are good)
5. Vacuum all around the ignitor and make sure there is no debris around it.
6. 12v power to board but no green light. There is a fuse on the board, and a reset switch try both. Then you have to get out your volt meter and start checking. Does the yellow wire to the solenoid have power after the furnace cycles. Tap the solenoid as they can stick.
7. Could be a bad control board, but 90% of boards replaced are not bad. Go through the steps!