



# BUS CHAT



## Bus Won't Build Air Pressure

**Post by:** goutoe

I started my bus for the first time in a few months. It builds about 15 lbs. of air pressure and that's all. I operated the parking brake and foot brake several times, not even enough pressure to shut the engine down, I listened for leaks and heard a very faint leak at the air governor coming out of a small hole in the casting. Any ideas?

**Post by:** richard5933

Do you have a compressor you can connect to try and air up the bus? If you do, you'll be able to determine if it's a major leak somewhere or a problem with the engine's compressor/governor.

**Post by:** goutoe

Richard, I do have shop air close by. That is my next step to air it up with that. This happened once before after sitting over the winter. That time I just set the parking brake and it aired right up, not happening this time though. Thanks!

**Post by:** richard5933

If you have no air, the parking brake should already be set. Do you hear any air from the parking brake valve while you try to air it up?

**Post by:** goutoe

I can't hear any leaks on the parking valve, but I can hear it set and release.

**Post by:** Dave5Cs

Get some "HEAT" at an auto store or truck stop etc. Take the big line loose from the compressor head and pour the heat into that hose and put it

back on. Then try to start the engine and within minutes I bet it will start building air. Your system is frozen or rusted and this sometimes frees' it up. Empty all the air tanks too.

**Post by:** goutoe

Thanks, Dave, I will give that a try. I think something is stuck.

**Post by:** buswarrior

A giant leak makes little noise from empty. And that's a giant leak, only 15 lbs of air. The broken supply hose, and air drier purge valve come first. Then wonder about an obstruction. There will be very high pressure at the compressor outlet if there is a stuck valve making an obstruction. Pouring stuff in ahead of an air drier will turn the desiccant into the mud, if you think you got trouble now...

**Post by:** Busted Knuckle

And another question. Is the air compressor working correctly? Try taking the output line loose and see what kind of pressure it's pumping out. If it's barely putting out any pressure it could be the fiber gear that drives the compressor that has given it up! Seen this more than once!

**Post by:** windtrader

Over the winter, the bus would not air up. It would get to about 30 PSI and no more. There are air leaks but did not have time to diagnose the source. When the weather warmed a bit or it decided to get off strike, it fired up and built pressure back up. Probably a sticky valve that got stuck when it got cold. Still need to sort it out but at least back going again while it goes where it's warm which is fine with me.

**Post by:** fortyner

If there is an obstruction the compressor outlet pipe should get pretty hot. But the suggestion to connect the air compressor is a good start.

**Post by:** goutoe

I guess the best bet is to try the shop air if there are no apparent leaks then see what the com-