

# Holdsworth Vision



Plus points: Base vehicle, top quality conversion

Minus points: Beds not the easiest to make



**T**here are motor caravans that handle all right, those that handle well and then there is the Volkswagen Transporter T4. In its standard form it lacks the space of the larger high-tops but this is more than made up for by its performance and handling. Many people like the idea of a camper but need a car as well. The Holdsworth Vision offers the best of both worlds.

Particular attention is paid to the comfort of the driver with firm but comfortable seats and a pneumatic backrest that can be adjusted to suit the driver's spine shape.

Producing 66hp more than its predecessor the T4-based Vision easily reaches 90mph at a leisurely 4,300rpm. At 80mph the long-stroke engine feels as though it is just ticking over. Add a silky smooth five-speed gearbox and the VW is more like a large car than a camper.

The heater, whilst excellent for front occupants was less so in the rear and in zero temperatures rear occupants were not really warm enough without a quick blast from the hot-air blower. Particularly appreciated were rear wipers whilst independent all-round suspension gives occupants an excellent ride.

It was tempting to make use of the excellent performance of the VW yet it still averaged 24mpg at 70mph, giving a range of 500 miles from the 80-litre fuel tank.

On the Vision the seating/sleeping area is separated from the catering department. Along the nearside at the rear is a stainless steel three-burner cooker/sink unit. A foot operated pump supplies cold water.

Useful cupboards and drawers in the kitchen area include a wardrobe and slide-out bottle store. There's a three-

way fridge on the right rear, with a 12V isolator switch in the cab. There is also a Zig unit and water level gauge for the 12-gallon (54.4 litre) water tank.

Four adults can sit, and eat, in comfort in the front area although fill-in cushions have to be used to create the necessary seating. The front passenger seat can be swivelled but not with the dinette seats in place.

Two single beds make for the best sleeping arrangement and the operation is half way there with the dinette seats in place. It isn't the simplest of beds to prepare but works well in use. A double bed can be created by adding slats and the occupants then sleep across the van. An optional second double bed can be fitted in the roof, also providing useful extra storage space.

Two Camping Gaz cylinders live under the ventilated rear seat with extra storage alongside. Also under a seat is the Propex heating system. Inside the van the fixtures and fittings are all



stylishly colour co-ordinated in subtle blue and pink with a light blue carpet.

**The Which verdict:** Priorities are what the Holdsworth Vision is all about. For the family who want both a family car and a luxuriously equipped camper there can be no more pleasing choice than the elegant and nippy Vision.

*Bruce Preston*

## Spec check

Make: Holdsworth Model: Vision Test date: May, 1992

### Performance data

Fuel consumption: 26mpg  
Comfortable cruising speed: 70mph-plus  
Maximum speed attained: 90mph  
Acceleration times: 0-60mph: 19.8 seconds 40-60mph: 12.1 seconds

### Base vehicle

Make: Volkswagen  
Model: Transporter kombi  
Type: Panel van to motorcaravan conversion specification  
Power unit: Two-litre four cylinder petrol injected producing 84bhp @ 4,300rpm

### Conversion

Type: High-top  
Overall length: 4.75m (15ft 8in)  
Overall width: 2.16m (7ft 1in) (including mirrors)  
Overall height: 2.52m (8ft 3 1/2in)  
Basic construction: Steel body with glass fibre roof  
Gas storage capacity: Two x 6lb Camping Gaz cylinders under rear seat

Water heating: n/a  
Space heating: Optional Propex blown-air heater  
Refrigerator: Electrolux 212E 12V DC/240V AC/gas  
Cooker: Three-burner hob with grill  
Toilet: n/a  
Bed sizes: Two x single 6ft 6in x 2ft or double 5ft 6in x 4ft 6in; upstairs double bed optional  
Electrical equipment: Mains connection to circuit breaker, (optional)  
Zig control panel for 12 volt system  
Lighting: Three x 12V strip lights  
Windows: Single-glazed glass all round  
Manufacturers: Richard Holdsworth Conversions, Headley Road East, Woodley, Reading, Berks RG5 4NE, tel: 0734 692900