



# Vehicle Deep Clean

## Reduce spread of (COVID-19)

No 336

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Safety

As COVID-19 continues to infect people across the world, it's vital we all play our part in reducing its spread.

For drivers this means more than just limiting travel to essential journeys, we should also be thoroughly cleaning our vehicles. This guide will tell you where the worst of the infected areas could be, what supplies you need, and how to properly clean your vehicle interior.

### Vehicle Cleaning

It is critically important that we maintain high levels of cleanliness across all our fleet of vehicles in these uncertain times. Many vehicles are used on a daily basis, with some being used by more than one group of employees each day who may be on shift work. Therefore we must follow the guidance below in conjunction with the film (Follow the link for a short video on how to clean your vehicle: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/404542763>) in order to minimise the risk of exposure to COVID 19.

### Personal protective equipment (PPE)

The government recommends using personal protective equipment or PPE when cleaning. If someone with confirmed or suspected coronavirus has been in your vehicle, you'll need to protect yourself before you start. As a minimum you should wear:

- gloves (preferably disposable)
- apron (preferably disposable)

If an area has been contaminated with bodily fluids from someone with coronavirus you should consider wearing:

- goggles to protect your eyes
- a mask to protect your mouth and nose

### What you'll need to disinfect your vehicle

With many shops closed to slow the spread of COVID-19 you might think you'd struggle to find the products you need. Thankfully a lot can be done with very little. All you should need for a decent clean is:

- bleach-free household disinfectant
- two bin liners

### Cleaning your vehicle during the outbreak

Once you've got the appropriate protective clothing on it's time to tackle the cleaning. Before you start with the interior, just make sure you give all the door handles (including the boot) a good wipe down first.

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### Driver's seat

- Steering wheel, including horn and infotainment controls
- Control stalks • Ignition and power button
- Keys



Of all the parts in your vehicle, your steering wheel is probably the most exposed to human touch. Use disinfectant around the whole of your wheel, including those out-of-sight areas where fingers tend to grip.

Don't forget to wipe the horn and any infotainment controls found on the steering wheel. You'll also need to clean the full length of all control stalks for indicators, headlights and windscreen wipers.

Although they're technically not part of your vehicle, you'll also need to clean your keys. Make sure you clean the handle, metal and the ignition itself, as these are the parts most often touched. If your Vehicle uses a button to start, give this a wipe too.

### Dashboard

- Air vents – passenger and central
- Gear stick
- Infotainment/radio
- Heating controls



We come into contact with our dashboard when using radios and infotainment systems. Heating controls are also a major touchpoint and you should pay particular attention to the knobs and buttons found here.

Don't forget the air vents. Grips found on the vents are used to manually change the direction of air flow and are regularly touched by both drivers and passengers, so these will need to be wiped too.

Gear sticks are among the most touched areas of your vehicle - make sure you scrub yours thoroughly, and the remainder of your dashboard towards your windscreen.

### All seats

- Seatbelts and clips
- Seat adjust controls
- Head rests
- Seat pockets



Seatbelts are another most commonly touched part of our vehicles, yet very easy to overlook during a clean.

Pull the length of the seatbelt out to ensure you clean the full surface that you come in contact with whilst wearing it. Don't forget the buckles and clips too.

Move on to the seat adjust controls before targeting head rests and seat pockets. If you've recently had passengers in your Vehicle, you'll want to pay particular attention to their seats.

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### Roof and doors

- Door handles and releases
- Door pocket
- Window switches
- Interior lights
- Grab handles



Vehicle doors are filled with germ hotspots. Concentrate on the handles and pockets plus any window controls.

Wipe down any interior lights and grab handles on your roof and give your rear-view mirror a thorough clean on the glass and all around.

### Boot

- Parcel shelf
- Boot floor tab

Your boot is often out of sight and out of mind, but there are a few areas here that deserve the disinfectant treatment. Make sure you wipe down your parcel shelf and any floor tabs that conceal your spare tyres.

### Other

- Glove box
- Central storage
- Cupholders
- Bonnet release lever

There are a few more areas you'll need to focus on to significantly reduce your vehicle's germ count. The glove box should be cleaned inside and out.

Be sure to clean your central storage compartment fully, including the lid, any levers and the inside of the compartment to reduce contamination.

Cupholders are a spot often forgotten during a clean, so try to reach right down into them. Finally, use your disinfectant on your bonnet release lever.

### After Cleaning

Disposable gloves and aprons should be double bagged in your bin-liners and stored securely for 72 hours before being thrown away in the rubbish.

If your protective clothing isn't disposable and you'd like to use it again, wash the items according to the manufacturer's instructions using the warmest water setting, then dry completely.

Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an unwell person can be washed with other people's items.

Wash your hands [as recommended](#) for at least 20 seconds after removing gloves, aprons and other protective clothing.

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