

How to properly wash and take care of your car on your own?

Proper washing and grooming of your car are extremely important to keep your vehicle in the best condition for a long time. A beautiful and well groomed car does not only give satisfaction to its owner but also represents a greater sales value. Improper washing might result in scratches which will make the paint surface of your car look bad. Regardless of whether you yourself wash your car or give this job to a specialized company, you should remember that only the cleaning products that have neutral pH should be used to wash your vehicle. Other products, used on an industrial scale, might remove the protective layers dabbed onto the paint surface and other elements of the car body making them look tarnished and causing discolorations. We recommend using microfiber fabrics to wash and dry your car.

Washing frequency

How often you wash your car depends on how intensively you use it. We recommend that cars used every day be washed every week. This will ensure that dirt and grime, which might damage the paint surface if left on for a period of time, will be removed quickly. This especially concerns bird droppings, insects or brake dust.

Recommendation: bird droppings should be removed from the paint surface as soon as possible. It can be done with the use of a special spray and a microfiber towel.

Tools and accessories needed for washing

A proper preparation for washing a car is one of the most important elements that will ensure that the cleaning process will not damage the paint surface. We recommend using a mitt and towels made from microfiber fabrics, which will not damage the paint surface and at the same time remove all dirt and grime. You can also find it useful to have a bucket with a special grit guard – a device which traps sand and other particles of dirt from the car body in the base of the bucket so they will not damage the paint surface while your car is being washed.

Recommendation: in order to avoid scratching the paint surface, we recommend using two to three sets of microfiber towels to wash and dry the paint surface, windows, plastic elements and wheels.

Washing

There are two ways of washing a vehicle - „from the bottom up“ and „from the top down“ – we recommend the former method – “from the bottom up.”

„From the bottom up.“ Washing should start with rinsing off dust and dirt with running

water. It is usually the bottom parts of the vehicle that are the dirtiest and require the longest amount of time to wash them properly. We recommend using running water and water in the bucket with a special grit guard. Washing the vehicle should be conducted using a circular motion and rinsing the wash mitt frequently in water. **In exceptional circumstances** when you have no access to running water, you should remember to change water in the bucket after washing the bottom parts of the vehicle. In the case of very dirty cars, we recommend changing water in the bucket even four to five times.

Recommendation: when you want to wash your car, always choose a place in the shade. Never wash a car whose body is hot from being exposed to the sun. You should also avoid parking and washing your car under trees, especially during the spring and summer. Resin and other debris falling from trees might damage the paint surface. It should be remembered that washing a car with a high-pressure water hose might result in scratches on the paint surface because of grains of sand on the dirty car body.

Drying

We recommend starting to dry your car immediately after you have finished washing it. This will prevent streaks that form from mineral elements contained in water. This time you begin „from the top down.“ It is during the drying process that scratches are often made because of using improper towels, sponges or cloths. Improper drying accessories also leave dust which spoils our efforts. Thus we recommend using microfiber towels – these modern accessories absorb water and dry the car body very effectively.

Recommendation: the `traditionalists` might choose a chamois towel made from 100% natural leather to dry their cars.

Cleaning and grooming the car interior

A beautiful and shiny car body does not look really good if the car interior is dirty. That is why we recommend combining cleaning and grooming the car interior with washing of the car body. You should cleaning and grooming of the interior by carefully vacuuming it. Next you can use professional products for cleaning and conditioning leather, vinyl and plastic elements, as well as windows.

Vacuuming

It is best to start by emptying ashtrays... You will need different vacuum attachments in order to get to all difficult to reach places. It is best to vacuum the floor mats outside of the car after pulling them out of the vehicle. You should also remember about vacuuming under the seats and in the storage area...

Recommendation: To achieve better results, it is best to empty contents of all storage compartments to an earlier prepared box. This will make it easier to vacuum, clean and condition all places that are difficult to reach.

Cleaning and conditioning

Products made by well-known companies guarantee the best cleaning results. These products are not only effective but they also protect the interior from everyday usage. You should remember to use different products to clean and condition different parts of the interior, for example, it is unacceptable to use products intended for cleaning plastic elements for cleaning and conditioning leather upholstery.

Recommendation: after cleaning the interior and prior to conditioning of different elements, it is recommended to vacuum the vehicle once again, which will remove the dirt released during cleaning.

The process of proper washing and cleaning the entire car is complex and time-consuming. That is why we recommend you give this job to specialists with experience who will apply the latest technologies of car washing and cleaning.