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Car Cleaning made easier...

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Author:

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16 Car Cleaning HACKS

If you commute to and from work, have children, pets or run lots of errands, chances are you spend a lot of time in your car and it gets pretty dirty. But, don't worry OSV have uncovered the best car cleaning hacks that will get your car cleaned in no time with items you probably already have around the house.

EXTERIOR

- To clean your side blades, simply wipe them with a clean rag dipped in hot, soapy water. After you clean off the soap, wipe the edge of the blade with rubbing alcohol. That can help with reducing streaks on your windshield.
- To remove bugs from your grill, spray either WD-40 or cooking spray onto the windshield or patwork to loosen bugs. Then wipe clean with a cloth.
- If you have dirty headlights you could try cleaning them with toothpaste. Simply rub toothpaste into the headlights with a toothbrush and watch the grime come right off. Spray warm water onto the headlight and wipe away the toothpaste with a cloth.
- If you want your alloy to shine, you just need water and washing powder. Make a paste out of the powder and proceed to rub all over your car's alloys. Rinse off with water and your car will have shiny alloys that will make people jealous.
- No need to break your back making those pesky hubcaps and wheel covers spin and spin. Simply remove them from your car and place them in the dishwasher. With little to no effort, they will show like new—just try not to wash them with your dinner plates.

INTERIOR

- Your rug holders can easily become a sticky mess. Not only is that unappealing, but it might even harbor bacteria. If your plastic holder is removable, place them in the dishwasher for about 20 minutes. If you cannot remove them, warm soapy water and a good scrub will do the trick.
- If you don't have removable cup holders and ashtray try to clean out all the gunk that accumulates in the sockets by putting 100ccs car wash in the bottom of your container. This will be perfect and one way to catch any crumbs or things that could potentially get stuck in there and are easy to clean in the dishwasher.
- Plastic console containers are flimsy and small enough to make the perfect rubbish bins for cars. The max-cover helps the rubbish from being out just in case it gets knocked over.
- You don't need special tools to clean out tight interior areas, an old toothbrush or cotton buds are amazing for getting to all the nooks and crannies of the car and will be incredibly helpful in cleaning small spaces such as vents, seams, buttons, and switches.
- The easiest ingredient to super shiny dashboards is hiding in your kitchen - olive oil. If you want the same effect without the olive oil smell, baby oil is a great alternative.
- Go over with coffee filters to soak up any excess oil and get rid of any lingering dust.
- By using a spray bottle of water and a sponge, you can clean up your plastic panel from your interior without too much fuss. By using the sponge along the upholstery, you can see the dirt coming off easily. After you've removed the dirt, use a vacuum to get rid of it permanently.
- Even though most people never look up, dust collects above us in an ever-ubiquitous, invisible cloud that will do a thing for most car interiors. If you want to clean your car ceiling, simply invest in a microfibre cloth that will suck up the dust.
- A can of compressed air can be used to clean air vents, but get a can of air and blast all the particles out.
- If you want to spruce up your car seats, lightly sprinkle baking soda, leave it sit for two minutes before vacuuming clean for instant freshness.
- Throw your car mats in the washing machine to get them back to looking like new. Most people want to try to do a gentle cycle just to make sure the mats don't damage your motor, but they'll come out looking amazing!

SOURCES

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Whether you spend hours each week commuting, are a road sales representative or even a one-man business looking to impress clients, the state of your vehicle is always going to be important. The last thing you want is to pick up a client in a car that's a real mess.

OSV (www.osv.ltd.uk) understand that keeping a car clean during a busy week is not always easy. So the team have come up with some useful tips to help keep things in pristine condition with little or no effort...

Are your wipers leaving streaks? Have your headlights lost their sheen? Has your coffee cup holder become a bacterial nightmare?

Here's what you need to do:

Streaky Windscreen

Wiper blades can get ingrained with dirt and all sorts of stuff. When your wipers are starting to leave big streaks on the windscreen, the best option is to give them a proper clean.

Get some hot water with a squirt of detergent in it, soak a rag and give those blades a clean. Invest in a bottle of rubbing alcohol and then give the edge a good wipe. You'll find your windows are streak free for much longer.

Dirty Headlights

Driving a lot means that the lights around your car can become caked in mud and dust. Even if they look relatively clean, they can begin to lose their sheen because of dirt.

If you really want them to sparkle, the easiest solution involves a little toothpaste. Get an old toothbrush, work the paste into the light area and then spray with warm water. You'll be surprised what a difference it makes!



Sanitise That Drinks Holder

Most people who use their car for business will recognise that old holder soaked in spilt coffee. Over time this can build up to an unholy mess that really looks pretty unhealthy. The solution, however, is simple. Most holders are removable - all you need to do is take it out and stick it in the dishwasher.

This kitchen household appliance actually comes in useful for something else too. Want to shine up your hubcaps? Unclip them and put them in the dishwasher at the same time. Much easier than scrubbing away on your hands and knees over the weekend.

Take Out the Rubbish

It's easy to throw sandwich containers, wrappers and old cups in the corner of your car. If you don't want to spend too much time vacuuming and picking up the rubbish when you have a client to visit, keep a plastic cereal container in your car. It's light, sealable and good for any old rubbish. All you have to do is empty it out in the bin when full.

Give Your Dashboard a Shine

If you're cleaning out your car and want to give your dashboard a long-lasting shine that will impress your business clients, don't spend your hard earned cash on a bunch of store products. There's a simple solution in your kitchen. Wipe over your dashboard with a little olive oil and then pick up the residue with either a coffee filter or an absorbent cloth. You'll find the dust stays off the dash for much longer.

Fighting Dog Hairs

If you've noticed that your dog is starting to leave parts of their pelt all over your car seating, there's one quick way to get rid of it. You just need a spray bottle of water and an old-fashioned squeegee. Spray your upholstery and run the squeegee over it and you'll soon find all those fine hairs removed. Perfect if you're about to pick up an important customer



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from the airport.