

Complete Car Detailing Checklist

Introduction

Whether you're detailing your own ride or prepping for a professional service, having a checklist ensures no detail is missed. Use this guide to follow the full process of interior and exterior detailing - from the tools you'll need to the exact order of steps.

Interior Detailing Checklist

- Remove all garbage and personal items
- Vacuum seats, carpets, floor mats
- Clean dashboard, console, vents
- Shampoo carpets and upholstery
- Clean windows and mirrors (interior)
- Treat leather or condition surfaces
- Deodorize or apply air freshener

Exterior Detailing Checklist

- Rinse vehicle thoroughly
- Pre-wash foam cannon or citrus degreaser
- Hand wash with two-bucket method
- Clean wheels and tires
- Iron remover and clay bar decontamination
- Dry with microfiber towels or blower
- Apply wax, sealant, or ceramic boost
- Dress tires and trim
- Clean glass (exterior)

Optional Add-Ons for Pro Results

- Engine bay detailing
- Headlight restoration
- Paint correction
- Ceramic coating or graphene coating
- Trim restoration
- Undercarriage rinse (especially in winter)