



Fact sheet:

COVID-19: Vehicle hygiene should now be part of your Pre-start Check Process

Pre-start checks on vehicles should now include hygiene management to minimise the risk of contracting COVID-19. The process should start prior to getting the keys for the fleet vehicle through to returning them.

What is a pre-start check?

A pre-start safety check can help to ensure a vehicle is safe to use, ensuring the safety of the driver and the community it operates within. A pre-start safety check also helps to protect the liability of all parties in the event of an incident involving your vehicle.

Why does COVID-19 pose a risk and need to be considered in a pre-start?

COVID-19 is a new virus which humans have no immunity to. Hygiene and cleanliness are one of the measures people can undertake to help reduce the spread of the virus. Vehicles provide the perfect place for transmission between people.

What should organisations do to improve vehicle hygiene?

Update the pre-start process to include hygiene maintenance and ensure a good supply of detergent, disinfectant solution and wipes at the key sign out location and in every fleet vehicle.

How long does SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19, last on surfaces we touch every day?

“It’s not certain how long the virus that causes Coronavirus survives on surfaces, but it seems to behave like other coronaviruses,” the World Health Organization said. “Studies suggest that coronaviruses — including preliminary information on the COVID-19 virus — may persist on surfaces for a few hours or up to several days.”

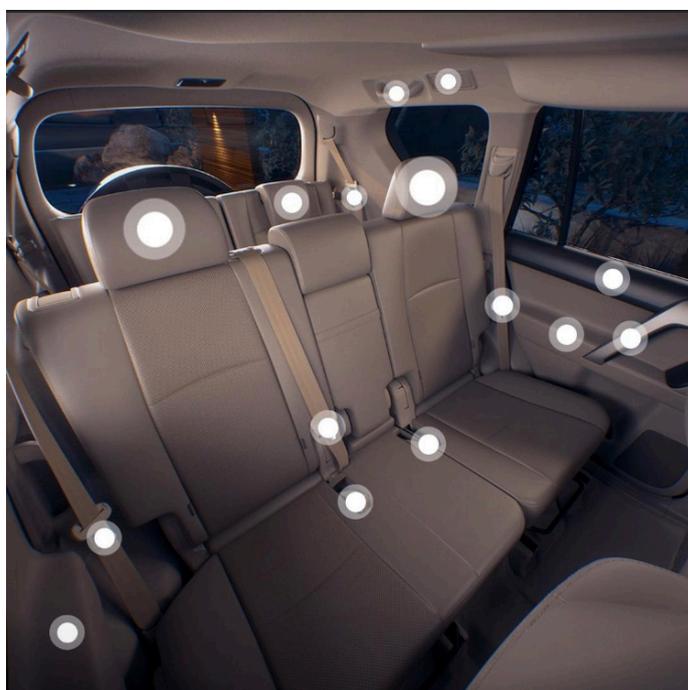
What should I use to clean, choice, preparation and use of disinfectants

Where possible, use an antiviral disinfectant (meaning it can kill viruses). Options may include **chlorine-based (bleach) disinfectants, common household disinfectants or alcohol solutions** with at least 70% alcohol (e.g. methylated spirits).

Ensure you follow the manufacturer’s instructions for appropriate dilution and use. Click [here](#) for more information on dilution instructions when using bleach solutions.

Which parts of my car should I be cleaning?

[Toyota Australia](#) has mapped out the top contact areas to focus on keeping clean to help reduce germs.



How long COVID 19 lingers		
Environment	Half-Life*	Detection Limit
Aerosol**	2.74hrs	Up to 3 hrs
Copper	3.4hrs	Up to 4hrs
Cardboard	8.45hrs	Up to 24hrs
Steel	13.1hrs	Up to 48hrs
Plastic	15.9hrs	Up to 72hrs

*The time it takes for a virus deposit to decay to half its strength.
 **A fine spray in the air
attribution: study from NIH/Princeton/UCLA



Please note!

When refuelling ensure you **wipe the bowser handle** before touching.



A generic approach to vehicle hygiene could be as follows:

1. Ask workers to detour to the toilets and wash their hands for **20 seconds** prior to getting the keys.
2. Upon key pick up and sign out of keys, ask them to use an alcohol-based wipe and wipe their hands, then the keys.
3. Inform the driver that upon reaching the vehicle they are required to do a pre-start check which includes hygiene management. They are to take a fresh wipe, upon arrival at the vehicle wipe all door handles and areas on the door they or a passenger may touch.
4. Open all doors of the car to allow fresh air in the vehicle.
5. Walk around the vehicle inspecting for damage, any damage ensure you notify the manager otherwise you could be held liable if the next person reports it. Now conduct your pre-start, check all four tires have tread and hard...
6. Once completed, walk around the car and close the doors.
7. Sit in the driver's seat, grab a fresh wipe, proceed to wipe:
 - a. Steering wheel
 - b. Gear shift
 - c. Hand brake
 - d. Arm rests
 - e. Mirror and window controls
 - f. Any electronics
 - g. Glove compartment where the log book or fuel cards are held
 - h. Wipe the pen, log book and fuel cards
 - i. Look around the cab and any other surfaces you may touch.
8. Adjust your mirrors.
9. You are now ready to go.
10. When you leave the car, take any used wipes with you and bin them. Wipe the keys down when you return them.