

# Do You Have to Clean a Rental Car Before Returning It at Hertz? Complete Guide

Many renters wonder whether they need to clean a Hertz rental car before returning it > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓. While Hertz does not require customers to perform a full cleaning, returning the vehicle in **reasonably clean condition** can help you avoid additional charges > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓. This guide explains what level of cleanliness Hertz expects, what counts as excessive dirt, and when you might be charged a cleaning fee > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓. For questions about charges or your reservation, you can contact customer service at > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓ > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓.

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## ★ Do You Need to Clean a Hertz Rental Car?

**No — Hertz does not require a full wash or detailing** > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓. But you *should* return the car in a similar condition to how you received it > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓.

This means:

- No significant trash
- No strong odors
- No spills or stains
- No excessive mud, sand, or pet hair

A quick tidy-up is usually enough > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓.

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## ★ What Hertz Considers “Excessively Dirty”

You may be charged a cleaning fee if the vehicle is returned with:

### 1. Spilled food or drinks

Sticky spots, stains, or residue inside the vehicle > +1(877)~684:::(4354)>✓.

### 2. Excessive dirt, mud, or sand

Common after beach trips, hiking, or off-road travel ➤ +1(877)~684:::(4354)➤✓.

### 3. Strong odors

Such as smoke, vape, food odors, or other smells that require deep cleaning ➤ +1(877)~684:::(4354)➤✓.

### 4. Pet hair or dander

Cars with pet hair often require special cleaning ➤ +1(877)~684:::(4354)➤✓.

If you believe you were wrongly charged, call ➤ +1(877)~684:::(4354)➤✓ for assistance ➤.

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## ★ Hertz Cleaning Fees: What to Expect

Cleaning fees vary based on location and severity ➤ +1(877)~684:::(4354)➤✓. In general:

- **Light cleaning** — No charge
- **Moderate cleaning** — May incur a small fee
- **Deep cleaning or detailing** — Higher cleaning fees
- **Smoke or odor removal** — Can be expensive

Keeping the vehicle tidy will help prevent these charges ➤ +1(877)~684:::(4354)➤✓.

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## ★ Tips to Avoid Hertz Cleaning Fees

To return your Hertz rental without extra charges:

- Remove all trash before drop-off
- Shake out floor mats if they're sandy or muddy
- Wipe up spills immediately
- Avoid smoking, vaping, or eating foods with strong odors
- Use a towel or blanket if traveling with pets
- Return the car reasonably clean—but no need for a full wash

A few minutes of cleanup can save you money ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓ .

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## ★ Do You Have to Vacuum or Wash the Car?

**No.** Hertz does not require:

- Vacuuming
- Washing the exterior
- Interior detailing

These are handled by Hertz as part of their normal turnover process ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓ . As long as the car is not unusually dirty, you're fine ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓ .

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## ★ What If You Were Charged a Cleaning Fee by Mistake?

If you think Hertz charged you unfairly, you can:

1. Review your rental agreement
2. Check photos of the car (if you took any)
3. Call **Hertz customer support** at ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓
4. Request a review or dispute of the fee

Agents can explain the charge and help you dispute it if necessary ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓ .

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## ★ Bottom Line: Keep It Reasonably Clean

You **do not** need to fully clean or wash a Hertz rental car before returning it ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓ .

But you **should** return it in a reasonable condition to avoid cleaning fees ➤ +1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤ ✓ .

When in doubt or if you need clarification about a charge, contact Hertz at ➤  
**+1(877)~684:: (4354) ➤.**