



## Spring cleaning? Don't forget to organize your car!

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Police cars are organized for maximum efficiency, and yours can be, too.  
photo courtesy Ford Motor Co.

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It's spring - time to clean and organize home and yard for a fresh start. It's also a great time to clean and organize your car, the place where many of us spend well [over 500 hours a year](#) (that's three weeks or more!). Holly Reich, contributor to Edmunds.com, provides a [five-step process](#) that will leave your car looking as fresh as when you drove it off the lot. To summarize:

1. **Sort and clean up** - take everything out, toss the trash, and sort the rest into three piles: frequent use, occasional use, emergency use. Anything left over should not be stored in the car.
2. **Analyze** - ask yourself how you use your car (for work, pleasure, errands, etc.). Your answers will help determine what to keep in your car.
3. **Prioritize** - scrutinize the items in your three piles from step 1, remove the duplicates, store off-season items, and keep in the car the most important items from each pile.
4. **Contain your needs** - to prevent loose objects from causing clutter and flying around the car in case of a sudden stop or crash, find containers to keep loose items organized and findable when you need them.
5. **Store** - keep insurance, inspection, and other essential information in the glove box. Use the built-in holders, slots, and cubbies to keep frequently used items close at hand, and use other containers to keep emergency and less-used items together.

For car-specific containers and ideas, try these sites:

- [Case Logic](#)
- [Driving Comfort](#)
- [Organize Your Ride](#)
- [Stacks and Stacks](#)
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