



## How to Maintain Car Value Over The Long-Term

When shopping for a new car, savvy buyers know finding the right car involves more than just finding the most comfortable or flashy vehicle. Numerous factors, including resale value, determine what makes a car the right car for a particular buyer.

Various websites and automotive resources rank vehicles based on their potential resale value, and drivers can do much to ensure their cars and trucks maintain that resale value over the long-term.

- Pay attention to the exterior. Much like homes with strong curb appeal can help homeowners get the best price for their homes when those homes are on the market, vehicles that look good can make strong first impressions on prospective buyers. Address any dings or dents on the car before putting it on the market, and make sure the car gets a thorough washing and waxing prior to showcasing it for potential buyers.

Upon purchasing new vehicles, drivers with their minds on maintaining resale values can park their cars or trucks in garages as often as possible to protect them from the elements. In addition, when parking in public, avoid tight parking spaces that can increase the likelihood that other drivers will ding or dent the vehicle when entering or exiting their own cars.

- Protect the interior. A well-maintained interior will impress buyers on multiple levels. Preowned buyers may feel more comfortable buying cars with well-maintained interiors that still make them feel as if they're buying a new vehicle. Vehicles with well-maintained interiors also give buyers the impression that sellers care about the vehicle and prioritized maintenance.

Avoid eating in the car, and immediately address any spills or stains. When taking the vehicle to a car wash, spend the extra money to have the interior cleaned as well. Seat covers can help protect cloth and leather interiors from spills, stains and cracking.

- Keep maintenance receipts. Another way to maintain resale value is to keep all maintenance receipts from the moment the vehicle is purchased. Preowned vehicle buyers are making substantial investments when buying preowned cars, and many will want to be certain they're investing in the right cars and trucks. Documentation with regards to the vehicle's maintenance can assuage any fears buyers may have and help sellers get the most money possible when putting their cars on the market.

Maintaining resale value is a concern for new car buyers who want to get the best returns on their automotive investments.

## Prevent Bugs, Sap And Other Substances From Ruining A Vehicle

Keeping vehicles looking pristine requires care and diligent cleaning. So many day-to-day activities and environmental materials have the potential to damage the finish on cars and trucks. While winter weather and chemicals used to keep roadways passable are often blamed for affecting the appearance of cars and trucks, winter is not the only time of year when substances can cause damage to vehicles.

Spring and summer are prime seasons for sap, birds and insects. These times of year tend to see an uptick in road work as well, and such projects can contribute to damage caused by loose asphalt, gravel and tar. Addressing problems resulting from tree sap, insect and bird droppings and tar may not be something to look forward to, but it is necessary to keep cars looking pristine.

### Tree sap

According to Cars.com, an automotive information resource and vehicle sales website, although tree sap won't cause immediate damage to vehicle paint, it should not be ignored. Over time, sap can become more difficult to remove, etch through the clear coat on the vehicle and cause discoloration. When the temperature is hot, damage from sap can accelerate.

On windows and wind-

shields, drivers may be able to gently remove dried sap with a razor blade. However, use cleaning products on more delicate paint. Automotive stores sell speciality sap and tar cleaners. Otherwise, you can try rubbing alcohol. It may take a few attempts to remove sap entirely.

### Insects and bird droppings

Splattered bugs and avian surprises dropped from above can be a messy, unsightly nuisance. Their acidic composition also may cause them to damage paint over time. Bugs and droppings can be sticky, so you will need to work with something that will remove the splatter without removing the paint in the process. A product like WD-40 may help. This oily product is normally used on rust and hinges. When applied with a cloth and allowed to penetrate the stain, it can loosen difficult-to-remove sticky substances. Always test any product you use in an inconspicuous spot first to make sure it doesn't damage or discolor your the paint.

Insects or droppings that are fresh may come off relatively easily with a good washing or hosing off of the car. Retailers also sell specialty insect sponges to remove bugs and other debris.

### Tar

Soap and water will do little to remove tar and



Keep vehicles clean and prevent damage by promptly removing sap, insects, droppings, and tar.

other petroleum-based products from vehicles. Commercial tar removal products use a strong solvent or detergent to loosen the tar. This may include kerosene, mineral spirits or another item mixed with lubricants. Go slowly and use caution so

that you remove the tar and not the paint.

Drivers who are hesitant to clean their vehicles of common residue can have their cars or trucks professionally detailed, leaving the work in the hands of experts.

### Mike Mackay AUTO BODY

12546 Highway 2, Onslow

All of our work is guaranteed.

We do all minor and major repairs, as well as frame straightening, for all makes and models and perform collision work for all insurance companies. We do repairs for major dealerships.

You, the insured customer, have the right to make the decision where your car is repaired, not your insurance provider.

902-895-6075



Maintaining a vehicle's interior can help owners protect its resale value.

### Moore's SERVICE CENTRE

902-893-7785  
Tire Change-Overs,  
Complete Exhaust,  
Complete Brake Work,  
2 & 4 Wheel Computerized Alignments  
9 Willow Street, Truro, NS

### PERCY SMITH USED CARS

Quality Used Vehicles  
FINANCING AVAILABLE  
visit: [percysmithauto.com](http://percysmithauto.com)  
Valley • 902-895-8453  
Call Percy Smith 902-899-7933  
or Louie Smith 902-890-6140

The **Shoreline** Journal  
Deadline for the June issue of **Shoreline** is May 23  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.theshorelinejournal.com](http://www.theshorelinejournal.com)

### ONSLow AUTOMOTIVE

Keeping Your Wheels Rolling

- Tire Sales & Service
- Licensed Technicians
- Motor Vehicle Inspections
- Major & Minor Repairs
- Seasonal Undercoating
- Engine Diagnostics (Foreign & Domestic)

Blake Brown 902-893-1529  
12879 Hwy #2, Lower Onslow, NS B6L 5E8  
[onslowautomotive@gmail.com](mailto:onslowautomotive@gmail.com)

### Your Car Will Love It!

Special \$99<sup>95</sup> Reg. \$149<sup>95</sup>

- Full Interior Detail & Shampoo
- Exterior Wash & Chamois Dry
- Vacuum Carpets and Seats
- Clean and Dress Leather & Vinyl
- Clean and Dress Vents and Door Jamb
- Tires Cleaned and Dressed

Call to book your appointment today 902-897-4463  
204 ROBIE STREET, TRURO, NS  
OPEN: 9am - 5pm

Automotive Protection & Detail

### CAR-PRO AUTO-SERVICE CENTRE

SPRING IS HERE!  
Tire Change-Over starting at  
Alignments \$69<sup>95</sup>  
CALL TODAY!  
66 Main St., Bible Hill  
[carpro@eastlink.ca](mailto:carpro@eastlink.ca)  
902-843-9700