



## Making sure your vehicle is free of biosecurity risk before importing to the Falkland Islands.

**Before a new or used motor vehicle arrives in the Falkland Islands, it must be thoroughly cleaned to ensure all biosecurity risk is removed.**

While a valet service may make the vehicle look presentable, it doesn't ensure the vehicle will meet the 'clean' biosecurity requirement.

Below are examples of some frequently contaminated vehicle areas and tips to ensure the vehicle arrives in the Falklands 'clean'. If the vehicle doesn't meet the 'clean' requirement, any subsequent treatment or inspection costs are the responsibility of the importer, and the vehicle may be subject to re-shipping back to the country of origin.

### Best ways to remove contamination:

- Insect infestation – If you can see many living insects in or on the vehicle, fumigation or heat treatment should be carried out. This also applies if animal hair is found in the vehicle as this may mean that flea eggs or larvae are present in the vehicle.
- Insects/snails – remove.
- Plant material – remove. If found in the interior, use a vacuum cleaner. If that vacuum is going to be imported along with the vehicle as personal effects, remember to remove the vacuum bag beforehand, or empty & clean bagless cleaners..
- Seeds - hand pick seeds off with sticky tape or equivalent. Loose seeds can be vacuumed from interior.
- Soil – pressure hose on exterior.

### Inspection Checklist:

Below is a check list to follow to ensure all areas of the car have been cleaned prior to importation.

| Steps | Area to inspect and clean   | Complete                 |
|-------|---|--------------------------|
| 1     | Clean the grille and front of vehicle   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2     | Clean across and under the bonnet and air vents   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3     | Clean front wheel, mud guards and wheel arch  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4     | Clean mirrors and window ledges   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5     | Clean across and around the roof  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6     | Clean back wheel, mud guards and wheel arch   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7     | Clean back bumper area  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8     | Repeat the entire process on the other side of the vehicle  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9     | Open bonnet and thoroughly clean motor area. Remember to use a torch to make sure all motor crevices have been cleaned.         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10    | Clean all interior areas of vehicle, including all compartments, under carpet if loose, under mats, between and under the seats | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11    | Clean the underside of vehicle  | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Please note:** If personal effects are accompanying a vehicle, you need to declare and package them separately as biosecurity officers must be able to verify the cleanliness of the vehicle on arrival. Any associated unloading or additional inspection costs will be the responsibility of the importer.



**Vehicle Interior**

**Interior areas of a vehicle include the boot, between and under car seats, ceiling areas, floor surfaces, side panels, all compartments, the spare tyre and its storage area.**



Check the boot for insects, plant material, seeds, soil and spiders and animal hair. Vacuum the boot interior.



Look for egg masses and insects on both sides of the spare tyre, check the surrounding area. The tyre tray should be cleaned and vacuumed.



Vacuum under and between car seats. Plant material, seeds and wood chips must be removed. Check for animal hair and any signs of fleas.

**NOTE: The Falkland Islands are free from cat & dog fleas. To keep it that way pay special attention in removing all animal hair, flea dirt or fleas by vacuuming and applying residual insecticide such as 'RIP Fleas'. If the vehicle has been infested with fleas, it should be fumigated or heat treated prior to export. Contact DoA for more information.**

## Vehicle Exterior

Exterior surfaces include bumpers, grates, hubcaps, mud guards, trays, tyres and wheels.



Remove hubcap to check underneath for eggs masses, insects, plant material, spiders and soil



A light road film on the wheel is ok, but more than that is not considered clean, especially if plant material, seeds or soil clumps are found.



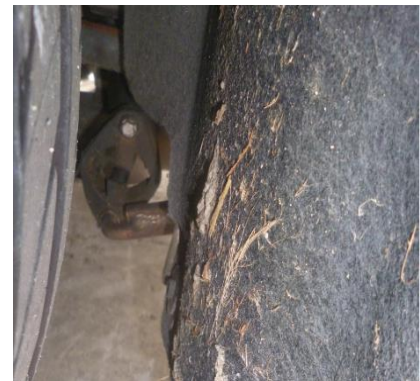
Look for egg masses, insects and spider webbing in and around the bumper and grates.



Look for plant material in exterior compartments and trays. Remove any pooled water from the vehicle.



Thoroughly check mudguards, tyres and wheel arches for soil and seeds. Water blasting may be best to remove soil in these areas.



If mud guards are covered in felt, thorough scrubbing or water blasting is often required, especially around the wheel arch.

## Motor

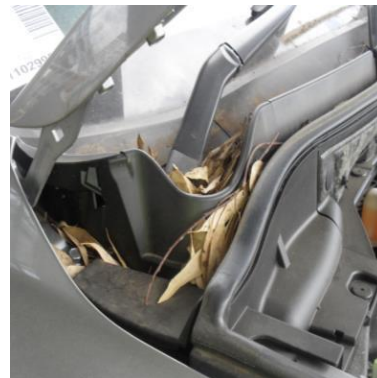
Motor area includes in and around motor, crevices and bonnet area.



Look for insects, plant material and spiders in and around bonnet grilles.



Wipe down surfaces that may contain plant material, seeds, and soil and remove it all.



Look for insects, plant material and spiders in corners/crevices.



Look out for reptiles and snakes (especially if originating outside the UK). They are attracted to warmth and confined spaces such as motors.

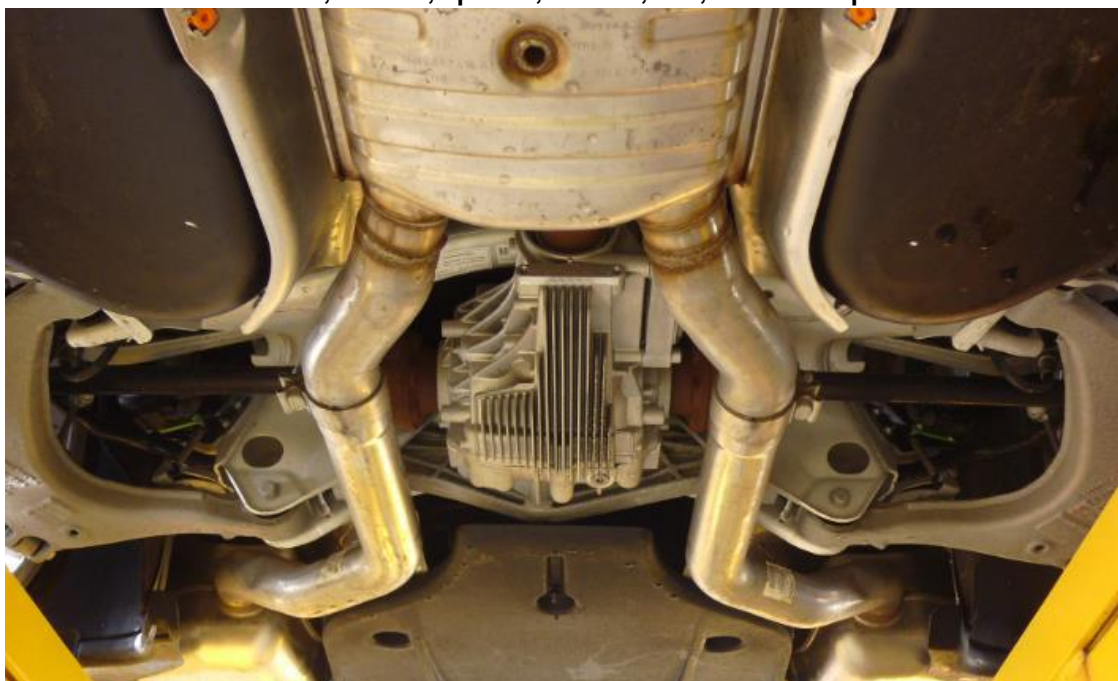


If the underside of the bonnet is covered in felt, a thorough scrubbing/water blasting may be needed to remove plant material and seeds.



Use a bright light to illuminate all motor crevices. Ensure insects, plant material and spiders are removed from the motor.

**Vehicle Underside**  
**Look for animals, snakes, spiders, insects, soil, seeds and plant material**



Use a bright torch to inspect what you can of the vehicle underside. A high pressured water hose can help clean what you may not be able to see.

**Insects - Most Unwanted!**



**Fleas** – There are no cat or dog fleas in the Falklands, so it's particularly important to make sure vehicles which have had animals in them are thoroughly cleaned. Flea eggs can remain dormant in carpet and nooks and crannies for several months.



**Brown marmorated stink bugs** hibernate in large numbers in vehicles and homes. They could cause serious harm to the Falklands native flora and become serious pests. Vehicles originating in Japan or the Eastern USA should be treated prior to export.



**Harlequin ladybirds** are voracious predators and highly invasive. They arrive in vehicles where they hide away to hibernate in large numbers. Keep an eye out for them and make sure your vehicle is free from ladybirds or any living invertebrates prior to export.

NOTE: It's not just insects which pose a threat to the Falklands. Seeds could germinate and become invasive, organic material may introduce new pathogens or diseases, and soil could harbour things like foot & mouth disease which would be catastrophic to livestock and agriculture in the Falklands.