### GUIDE TO

**CHOOSING THE RIGHT** 

**COVER FOR YOUR** 





### INTRODUCTION

Most people don't realize the important role a good, high quality cover plays in protecting their cars. They ignore the fact that without a car cover, their vehicles are left exposed to the damaging effects of the elements - and this can be a very costly mistake.

Leaving your car outdoors in the baking summer sun can fade your car's paintwork and ruin the vinyl trim rubber parts while exposing it to rain water can corrode any sensitive or unprotected areas over time. Even vehicles that are stored indoors can benefit from having a cover, since dings and scratches are a real possibility in a garage. The cost of removing rust and getting a new paint job can also amount to hundreds of dollars.

A high quality car cover can be an effective way of protecting your investment. Unfortunately, most people don't know how to go about selecting the right cover for their car. And this is precisely the reason why this guide was created. In it, we will take a look at the different factors you need to consider when selecting a car cover and give you some pointers on what to look for in a car cover.

# FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING A CAR COVER

There are a number of factors that you may need to consider when selecting an appropriate cover for your car. In this section, we will take a look at the most important ones to take into account.

### Where You Park and How Often You Use Your Car

Where you park your vehicle serves as a good starting point for determining what type of car cover best fits your needs. Basically, you will need a different type of cover for cars that are parked indoors and those that are parked outdoors, since they will be exposed to different elements and need different levels of protection.

A lightweight cover may be ideal for cars that are parked indoors but are frequently used since they can provide ample protection and are easy to remove, fold, store, and put back on. On the other hand, a heavier indoor car cover may be needed if you have kids and/or pets, or if your garage doubles as a groundskeeper's shed. It may also be the perfect choice if you only use your car on weekends or plan to leave your vehicle under cover for extended periods of time.

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Depending on where you live, you may need a car cover that provides ample UV or moisture protection. You may also need something that can provide the best protection against salt damage if you live within a mile of the coast. As mentioned earlier, even cars that are usually parked indoors would benefit from having a cover since they are still susceptible to dents, scratches and condensation. By keeping your car under cover, you can also protect it against dust and dirt particles that can cause minute scratches and damage your car's exterior paint surface over time.

### **Type of Fit**

Car covers can be classified into three main categories – the Universal Fit, the Custom Cover, and the Semi-Custom Cover.

### **Universal Fit Covers**

Universal fit covers are generic in shape and are made to accommodate the widest variety of vehicles possible. While these covers are relatively cheaper and are readily available at most auto parts retailers, they provide a poor fit and tend to be either too big or too small for your car. Because of the fit issues, these covers are also harder to install.

In addition, universal fit covers are usually made from cheaper, thinner materials, are rarely suitable for outdoor use, and have to be replaced more frequently.

### **Custom Covers**

While custom covers provide the best fit for your car, they are also very expensive, and can only be used on the specific vehicle and model they were designed for. Most are made-to-order so it may take you an average of 6 weeks to get hold of the product. You also need to be aware that custom covers cannot be returned or exchanged without paying a restocking fee. Worse, in order to keep the cost of the cover down, the quality of custom covers are often poor.

### **Semi-Custom Covers**

Semi-custom covers provide the best balance between fit and price. They are usually easy to install and, because they aren't made to order, can almost always be shipped right away. More than anything else, semi-custom covers tend to focus on quality and protection, and can be easily returned or exchanged if you are not satisfied with the product. Semi-custom covers take into account the vehicles style, size and features. They come inches close to a custom cover at half the price.

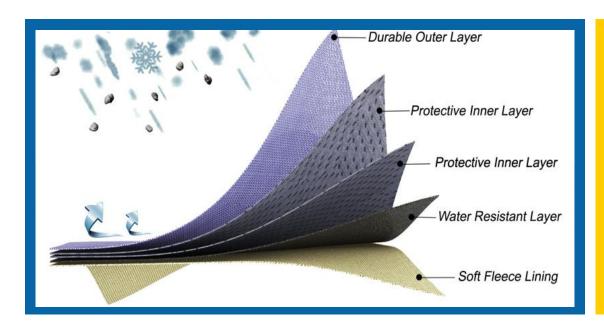
## WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN SELECTING A CAR COVER

Now that you know how to choose the best car cover that will suit your needs, you need to know what to look for to make sure you pick one that would give you the level of protection you need without breaking the bank.

### **Multi-Layer Covers**

Generally, you are going to want something with at least three layers to them – a protective outer cover, a breathable middle layer and a soft inner layer.

☐ The outermost layer should be durable enough to provide superior UV and moisture resistance, while blocking dust, tree sap and bird droppings.

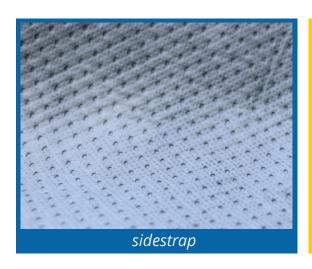


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- ☐ The middle layer should be porous enough to allow moisture and heat to easily escape from under the cover. They should also be strong enough to guard against dents and dings from hail and other impacts. Inner layers can vary in terms of their function, but generally one should at least be water resistant.
- ☐ The innermost layer should be made from non-abrasive materials to avoid inflicting any damage to your car's paint finish. Since the average paint job is only 0.006 inches thick, even the most rugged looking vehicles are vulnerable to scratches. As such, you should choose a car cover with a soft satin lining to keep your vehicle scratch-free while you store it.

### **Fabric**

The best car covers are made from high quality polyester or satin materials. These provide superior weather resistance so you can be sure that they can protect your car against the damaging effects of UV rays, rain and snow.



Unlike covers made from cloth or plastic tarp, these materials allow moisture to escape to prevent condensation from building up on your finish, and prevent mold and mildew formation. If you don't want to leave dust or residue on the car after use, avoid using covers made from materials mixed with cotton or oil based fabrics.

These covers are also extremely light, making them easy to handle and store. They are also very durable so they would not easily degrade over time.

### Stitching

Stitching may not seem all that important, but if a cover doesn't have a tight, well-sealed seam, then it doesn't matter how durable the fabric is. Ideally, you would want ultrasonically welded seams, with double stitching for added strength and water-resistance.

Your car is one of your biggest investments so you need to give it the protection it deserves. By using a high quality car cover, you can better protect your car against the damaging effects of the elements, as well as from accidental damages caused by kids, pets, and pedestrian traffic. It can also provide an added layer of protection against indoor storage hazards.

A good car cover can be an added expense but it will definitely help you save money in the long run. To get the perfect cover for your car that offers the best protection and the best value, trust only the best - **Seal Skin Car Covers**, your premier car cover provider.

With Seal Skin Car Covers, you can be sure that you are getting the highest level of protection for your car at a great price. Learn more by visiting us online and find the perfect cover for your car by using our convenient car cover selector.



### **About SealSkin Covers**

We manufacture covers for all types of vehicles. Our business model is unique because we own the entire supply chain allowing us to monitor and guarantee high quality covers at low prices. We have been selling high quality covers online since 2004 and our team strives to bring you the best quality covers and provide you with a great shopping experience.



