VOLVO V70

INTERIOR DESIGN CONCEPT

Maximised for convenience, comfort and practicality, the interior of the V70 has been designed to reflect the flexibility, desirability and quality required by today's premium brand estate car buyers.

The interior features classical, fresh and simple Scandinavian design with a smart ergonomically efficient fascia. There's ample room for a quintet of adults, with air vents on B-pillars for the added comfort of rear passengers, plus there's the option of two extra rear-facing seats in the loadspace.

The rear seatback is split 60/40 with two positions to optimise loadspace or passenger space, while the front passenger seat also folds forward to accommodate longer loads.

Naturally, the rear seats split and fold quickly and easily to create a flat load space with a maximum capacity of 1641 litres. The versatility of this area is improved with a number of clever features: head restraints that simply fold away rather than needing to be removed before folding the seats down, most models have a unique shopping bag holder in the boot that keeps items upright and secure and also feature a rear waste bag or bottle holder.

- Interior maximised for comfort, convenience and practicality
- B-pillar ventilation on all models for rear passenger comfort
- Ergonomically designed fascia with multi-adjustable driving position and steering wheel controls
- Ample space for five adults, with three-point safety belts with pre-tensioners and head restraints for each occupant. Two rear-facing seats in loadspace optional
- Rear seat backrest can be adjusted in two positions through 30 degrees to optimise passenger or loadspace
- Rear seats split/fold (60/40), leave a flat load bay and act as a bulkhead when folded forward
- Front passenger seat also folds forwards to accommodate loads up to 3.09m long
- Maximum luggage volume of 1641 litres with seats folded
- Unique shopping bag holder integrated into the boot of some models (standard Sport and SE)
- Rear waste bag/bottle holder fitted to most models with the option of integrated child booster cushions and a fold-out table or child seat from the centre armrest

The interior design of the Volvo V70 has been maximised for comfort, convenience and practicality. It reflects the flexibility, quality and desirability of today's premium brand estate

car drivers, and mixes typical Swedish design simplicity with impressive attention to detail. The designer's goal was to provide a large, practical load bay that's also impressively versatile, yet good to look at.

Smart Scandinavian Style

The fascia architecture echoes that of the Volvo S80 and S60 and careful attention has been paid to the ergonomics. The large, easy to use buttons are spread logically across the fascia and the controls for the stereo, air-conditioning and dynamic systems are grouped together and fall naturally to hand.

Additional controls for the audio unit, cruise control and optional Road Traffic Information (RTI) system have also been cleverly integrated into the steering wheel and can be operated without the driver taking their hands off the wheel. All the car's primary functions are therefore grouped sensibly around the driver, helping to make the Volvo V70 an easy and satisfying car to use.

The centre tunnel console and arm rest were redesigned in 2004 with enhanced quality and details such as four cupholders and a multi-function folding armrest including 'burger-tray'.

Comfort

The front seats were orthopaedically designed and praised for their high level of comfort and support, particularly over long distance. They are multi-adjustable, include Volvo's WHIPS (Whiplash protection system) and were improved for 2005 models to offer a greater range of adjustment with slimmer head restraints to aid visibility of rear seat passengers. Coupled with a steering wheel that adjusts for reach as well as rake, the Volvo V70 provides an ideal driving position for people of all shapes and sizes.

Volvo has always been committed to providing exceptional comfort for all the car's occupants. For example, rear passengers have their own air vents in the 'B' pillars so they can also benefit from the air conditioning and ventilation system. Peter Horbury explains:

"Nobody rides tourist class in a Volvo; everybody rides at least business class. All five seats are a priority."

Space and Versatility

By opting for a transverse engine layout, Volvo's engineers have helped maximise the available passenger space. There's ample room in the rear for a triplet of adults and every occupant benefits from a proper head restraint and a three-point safety belt with tensioners. The angle of rear-seat backrest can also be adjusted through 30 degrees to maximise either rear passenger comfort, or load space.

The size of the area behind the rear bench is, of course, crucial to the appeal of an estate car. The V70 does not disappoint, as Volvo's trophy cabinet of 'best estate' awards for the V70 testifies. With the rear seats in place, it offers 485 litres of space to the glass line or, with the seats folded down, 745 litres to the glass line and a mighty 1641 litres to the roof.

Folding the rear seats has also been made as easy as possible. There's no need to remove the head restraints – they simply fold out of the way first – and lowering the seats leaves a totally flat cargo area that makes loading and unloading as convenient as possible. The rear seat splits 60/40 to allow awkward loads to be accommodated alongside passengers, and for transporting long objects, the front passenger seat can be folded forwards, creating a luggage compartment that's 3.09m long.

The load area also benefits from a 12 volt power point and a unique shopping bag holder, which is fitted on most models. A series of hooks help keep bags upright, ensuring the contents of a supermarket shop won't end up spread over the boot floor. And when it's not needed, the holder folds out of the way into the luggage compartment floor. Other neat features fitted as standard, or available as an option, include integrated booster seats, a waste bag/bottle holder and a child seat or foldable table that fold out of the rear centre armrest.

For drivers who require occasional seven-seater versatility, Volvo offers a pair of rearward-facing seats in the load area for children. Both of these seats benefit from a three-point safety belt and head restraints. And when they're not in use, the seats fold away completely beneath the luggage compartment floor.