

INTERIOR DESIGN CONCEPT

In Brief:

The interior design concept for the Volvo XC70 is typical of the contemporary, Swedish design and style of the rest of the Volvo range, with a smart, uncluttered and ergonomic dashboard design. But the XC70's interior has been customised to reflect its versatile role as a rugged, all-road, premium alternative.

There's an aluminium passenger grab handle on the centre console in case the terrain gets really rough, and the standard leather trim features 'sail seam stitching,' which underlines Volvo's tough yet luxurious approach to the quality of its interior design.

The cabin has room for five adults, with the option of two additional rear-facing seats in the loadspace, with air vents on the B-pillars for the added comfort of rear passengers.

When the rear seats are all folded flat, there's 1641 litres of load capacity, while the front passenger seat also folds forward to allow longer loads up to 3.09m to be carried.

Unique to the Volvo XC70 is the option of a 40/20/40 split rear seat, which allows long items to be accommodated between two rear passengers. The centre section can also be removed and replaced with accessories, such as an electric cooler box.

In Full:

- Complements critically-acclaimed Volvo V70 estate design (and V70 AWD)
- Contemporary, Swedish design with uncluttered, ergonomic dashboard
- Interior maximised for comfort, quality, convenience and practicality
- Space for five adults, plus option of two extra rear-facing seats in loadspace, with three-point safety belts and head restraints for each occupant
- Angle of rear seat backrest can be adjusted through 30 degrees
- Unique 40/20/40 split rear seat option for further versatility
- Air vents on B-pillar for added comfort of rear passengers
- Standard 'sail seam' leather trim
- Aluminium passenger grab handle on centre console
- Front passenger seat folds forwards to accommodate loads up to 3.09m long
- Luggage volume of 1641 litres with seats folded

- Unique shopping bag holder in loadspace
- Rear waste bag/bottle holder
- Optional Family Pack includes power child locks, integrated booster cushions, and foldable table with dual cupholders for rear passengers

The interior design concept for the Volvo XC70 borrows heavily from the Volvo V70, but it's been revised and upgraded to reflect its role as the rugged, all terrain alternative.

Contemporary Swedish Design

Durable fabrics and materials have been chosen for the carpets and trim panels. The Select leather upholstery, which is standard across the range, also features unique 'sail seam' stitching, which underlines Volvo's tough yet luxurious approach to the interior design. To reflect the more rugged intentions of the XC70, the centre tunnel console design is more open and accessible than the equivalent V70 design, and includes a sturdy passenger grab handle that also looks the part and proves extremely useful when crossing rough terrain.

The rest of the fascia is borrowed from the Volvo V70 and is a handsome design tuned for ergonomic efficiency. The large, easy to use buttons are spread logically across the fascia in a typically simple Swedish design, and the controls for the audio system, climate-control and dynamic systems are sensibly grouped together and fall naturally to hand.

Additional controls for the stereo, cruise control and the (optional) Road and 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 XC70 an easy and satisfying car to use.

Comfort

The front seats were orthopaedically designed and combine a high level of comfort and support – especially over a long journey. The driver's seat is electrically adjustable (as is the passenger's on SE Lux spec cars) and this, coupled with a steering wheel that adjusts for reach as well as rake, 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. Peter Horbury, Volvo's former Vice President of Design explained

"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

In the design of the rear seat, the Volvo XC70 offers two choices. The standard fitment is for a traditional 60/40 split rear seat, or there's also an optional, three way, 40/20/40 split design to make the car as flexible as possible. By folding down the centre section, for example, the XC70 is able to accommodate two passengers in extreme comfort alongside a long object, such as a snowboard. The centre section can be removed altogether and replaced with an array of options including a 30 litre storage box and a 17 litre cool box.

Such versatility helps the Volvo XC70 stand out against some talented opposition, and it's accompanied by all the luggage space and practicality expected of a Volvo estate car. The near-vertical rear end and square rear windows liberate a vast, well-shaped load area. With the rear seats in place, there's 485 litres of space to the glass line, which, with the seats folded down, can be increased to a maximum of 1641 litres. To accommodate items of up to 3.09m in length, the front passenger seat also folds forwards.

Two integrated child booster seats are available for the rear seat as part of an optional Family Pack, which also includes a foldable table and dual cupholders, plus power child locks for the rear doors.

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 seat leaves a flat cargo area that makes loading and unloading as convenient as possible.

This space is made more useful by a number of neat storage solutions. Volvo's unique shopping bag holder keeps objects upright and secure and folds away neatly into the boot floor when it's not in use. A standard steel safety grille protects occupants against loose luggage under heavy braking, and it can be folded up against the headliner when it's not in use. Other thoughtful touches include a hook in the passenger seat headrest for hanging a jacket to keep it within easy reach without it obscuring rear vision.

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