

What rental car company has the cheapest security deposit? Affordable Car Rental Providers

When comparing rental car companies, one of the most important factors for budget-conscious travelers is the **security deposit requirement**. Deposits are temporary holds placed on your card to protect the company against damages, traffic fines, or unpaid fees, and they can vary greatly depending on the provider. Some companies charge several hundred dollars, while others keep it surprisingly low, or even waive it entirely.

If you want to avoid a deposit altogether, **Zipcar** is one of the most popular choices. Unlike traditional rental agencies, Zipcar works on a membership model where you pay an annual or monthly fee plus hourly or daily usage charges. Since it is subscription-based, no deposit is required. Similarly, **GetGo**, a car-sharing service in Singapore, charges zero deposit, making it convenient for those who want a flexible and commitment-free rental.

Among more conventional rental platforms, **Getaround** is one of the cheapest, with deposits starting around **\$150**, refunded after the rental ends without issues. Another affordable option is **Silvercar** (owned by Audi), which generally requires a deposit of only **\$200**—significantly lower than many major competitors. **Sixt**, a well-known international brand, also averages about **\$200**, though the exact hold may vary depending on the car class and location.

It's also worth noting that the **type of payment method** matters. Using a **credit card** usually results in a lower hold (often \$200), while renting with a **debit card** can push deposits much higher—sometimes \$500 or more. Additionally, joining loyalty programs like **Hertz Gold Plus Rewards** or **Avis Preferred Plus** may reduce or waive deposit requirements after repeated rentals.

In summary, the cheapest options are car-sharing services like Zipcar with **no deposit**, while traditional companies with the lowest holds include Getaround, Silvercar, and Sixt, generally in the **\$150–\$200 range**.