

Hot Car Safety



True Story

A 5-month-old died from hyperthermia when his father absent-mindedly left him in the car for approximately two hours. The baby's core temperature was 107 degrees F.

-From the Tribune Media Services

The Facts

- At least 36 children died in 2004 after being trapped in hot cars.
- When the outside temperature is 93 degrees F, even with a window cracked, the temperature inside a car can reach 125 degrees in just 20 minutes and 140 degrees in 40 minutes.
- Extreme heat rapidly overwhelms the body's ability to regulate temperature. The body can go into shock and circulation to vital organs will begin to fail. Infants and small children are particularly vulnerable due to their body configuration.

What You Can Do

- Keep cars locked at all times even in the garage or driveway.
- Teach children not to play in or around cars.
- Never leave your child in an unattended car even with the windows down.
- Put car keys out of children's reach and sight.



Safe Kids Greater Des Moines, led by Blank Children's Hospital, is a grassroots organization dedicated to preventing unintentional injury in children ages 0-14.

For more information call (515) 241-6293 or visit www.dsmsafekids.org.