

# There's Something Under the Hood of Your Car That Will Break the Window of A Hot Car in No Time Flat

BY [PRUDENCE HILL](#) (May 19, 2015) | [CULTURE](#)

Summer is on its way, and so are the dangers that we often forget about during the colder months — like the hazard posed by hot cars. Summertime temperatures inside a locked car can quickly rise to deadly levels.

According to [KidsandCars.org](#), approximately 38 children die each year from heat-related causes after being trapped in a hot car.



Image credit: Facebook

According to the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#), when temperatures are 80° F – 100° F outside, cars parked in direct sunlight can reach internal temperatures up to 131° F — 172° F.

*In warm weather, a vehicle can warm to dangerous, life-threatening levels in only 10 minutes.*

The danger of hot cars is one we are becoming more aware of, but the nightmare scenario remains. According to [ABC News](#), that was exactly the situation one mother in Texas faced last summer, when she accidentally locked her three- and five-year-old in her car.

With the temperature near 100 degrees, there was no time to spare. After she appealed to a group of people in the parking lot, they were reduced to banging on the windows, trying to break through. Finally, someone was able to find a sledgehammer, break the window, and help rescue the children.



*Image Credit: Screen Shot/ YouTube KHOU News*

Unfortunately, a sledgehammer may not always be easy to find. However, as Speed Society [reports](#), there is a simple hack that will let you break a car window with something you should have on hand. And you don't even need a lot of strength to do it.

As National Geographic host Brian Brushwood explains, car windows are made from tempered glass, which is designed to be resistant to blunt force. However, the small, precise force from a sharp piece of ceramic such as a spark plug will more easily penetrate the glass, causing it to shatter.



*Image Credit: Screen Shot/ YouTube*

All you need to break glass is a spark plug and something that can help you break the porcelain or ceramic insulator of the plug. (It will shatter, so protect your eyes.) Take a sharp piece of the ceramic and throw it at the window you need to open. Then stand back (and continue to protect your eyes) as the window shatters.

As the video states, if you don't have a spark plug on hand, a small piece of ceramic will work too. The principle is easy to remember: if you need to rescue someone from a hot car, pointed and precise force will be more effective in shattering the window than a heavy object.

It's a "life hack" that could end up literally saving a life.

<http://www.ijreview.com/2015/05/325507-theres-something-hood-car-will-break-window-hot-car-no-time-flat/>