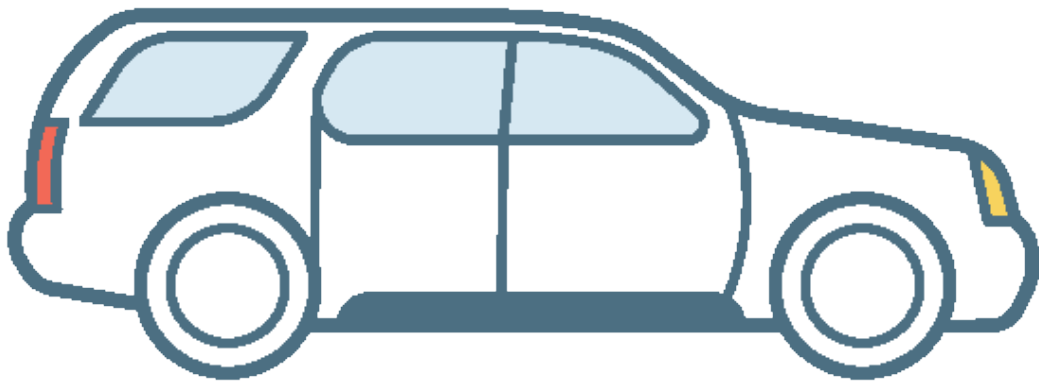


CHILD PROOF YOUR RIDE



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Car Seat

Get it professionally installed and use it correctly on every ride.

Rear-facing until child reaches max height & weight limit for the seat.

Forward-facing with harness & tether until child's shoulders are above the highest harness slot or they max out the weight limit of the seat.

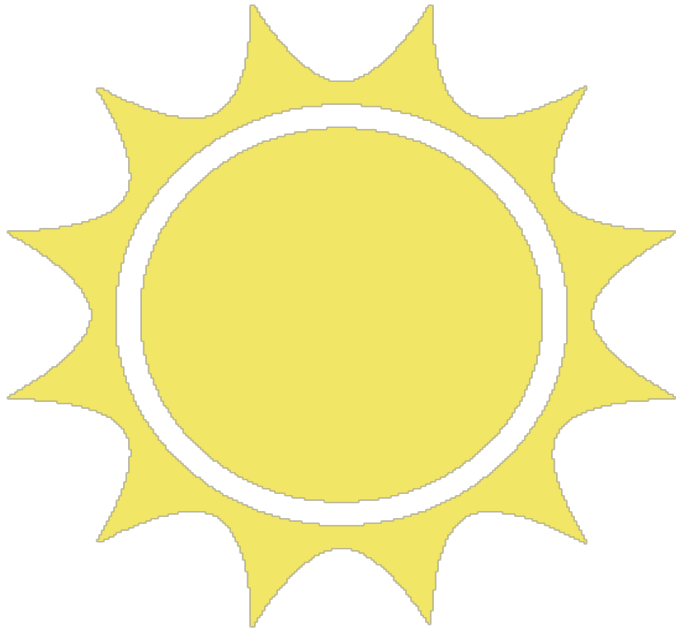
Booster seat until the seat belt fits the child correctly.



5-step Test: Is your child ready for a seat belt only?

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?
2. Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
3. Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you cannot answer “yes” to all 5 questions, the child still needs a booster seat.



Look Before You Lock

Make it a habit – open the back door every time you park to ensure no one is left behind.



Place an item that you can't start your day without in the back seat.

Ask childcare to call if your child doesn't show up as planned.

Be VERY careful during changes in routine.



Locked & Out of Reach

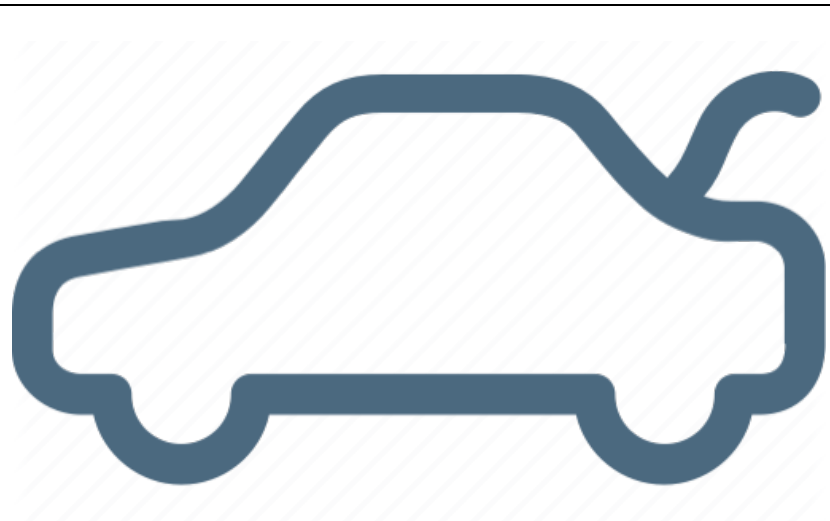
1/3 hot car deaths occur when a child gets into a vehicle on their own and cannot get out

Lock 

Doors locked: Keep vehicles locked at all times. Ask neighbors and visitors to do the same.

Keys: Always keep keys and fobs where children can't get them.

If a child goes missing: immediately check the inside, floorboards and trunk of all vehicles.



Trunk

Teach kids how to use the glow-in-the-dark trunk release in your car's trunk.



Cars 2001 & older don't have one, but you can get one for \$6.99 at:

www.KidsAndCars.org

Blindzones

Areas on ALL sides of ALL vehicles where a child cannot be seen by the driver.



Bye-Bye Syndrome: Children commonly follow people out of the home unnoticed to say hi or bye-bye and end up in the path of a vehicle.

→ Directly supervise children when anyone is arriving or leaving the home and in parking lots.



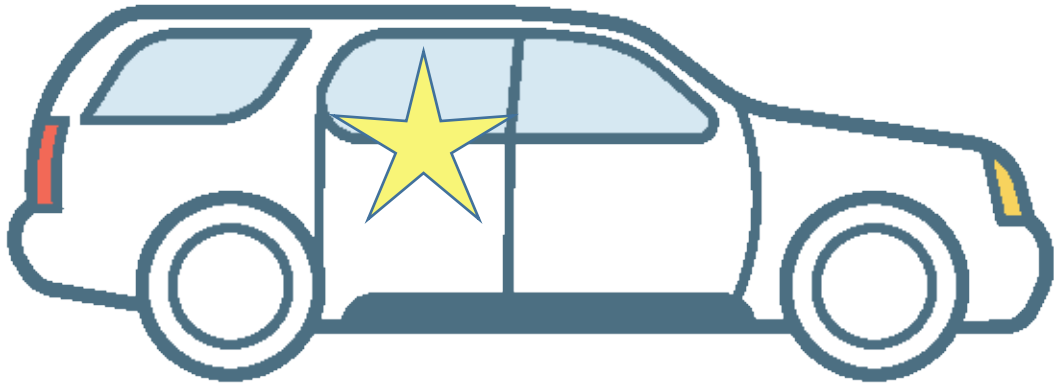
Backup Camera

Every week at least 50 children are backed over.

All new vehicles (2018+) come with a backup camera that allows you to see directly behind your vehicle when backing.

You don't have to wait for a new car to get one!

You can add one to any vehicle.



Back
Seat

Children age 15 & under
should always ride
in the back seat,
where they are safest.

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Horn / Hazards

Teach kids to honk the horn
and/or turn on the hazard
lights if they become
trapped in a car.

*(not all horns work when the
engine is turned off)*



Carbon Monoxide

Never leave a vehicle running in the garage (even with the garage door open). Carbon monoxide can leak into your home and kill.



Keyless ignitions are especially dangerous because they are often accidentally left on.



Install carbon monoxide detectors in all levels of your home & sleeping areas (even if you are renting!)

Always clear the tailpipe of ice, snow or debris so carbon monoxide can't leak into the vehicle.



Power Windows

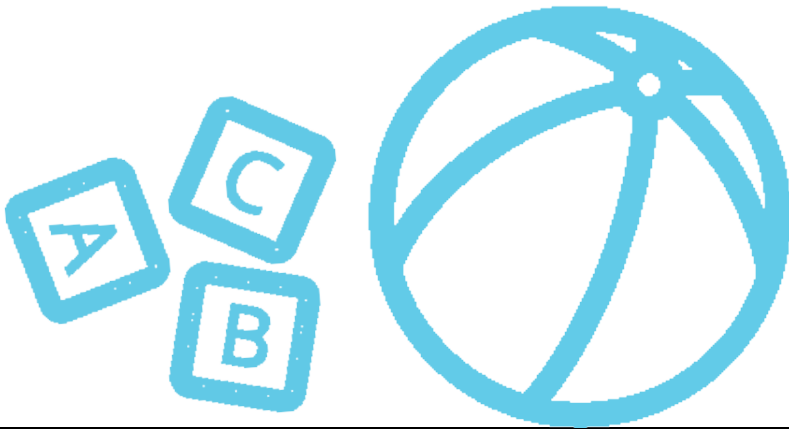
Thousands of children have been injured or killed by power windows.

- ✓ Keep window locks on
- ✓ Make sure tiny hands are in the vehicle before closing windows
- ✓ Never leave a child or pet alone inside a vehicle, not even for a minute



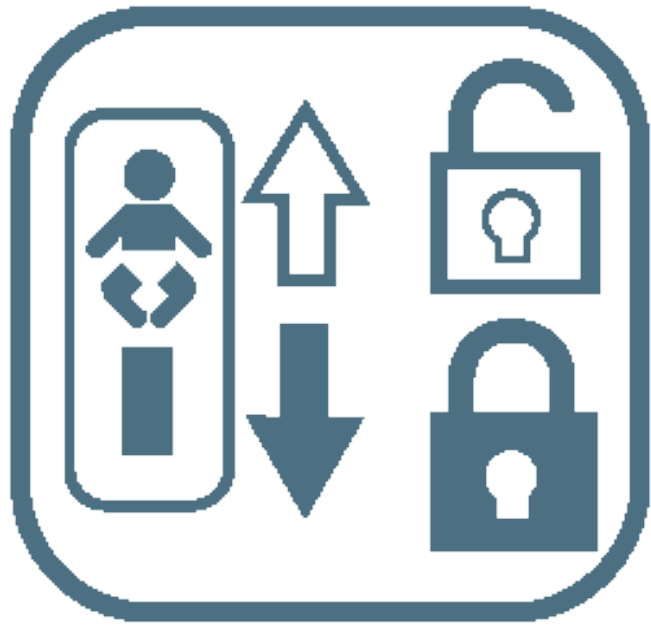
Gear Shift

Beware that vehicles older than 2012 can be put into gear without your foot on the brake. Put your parking brake on every time you park and never leave a child/pet alone in a car.



Loose Items

Toys, sports gear, handbags, etc. become projectiles in a crash and cause injury or death. Properly restrain or put loose items in the trunk.

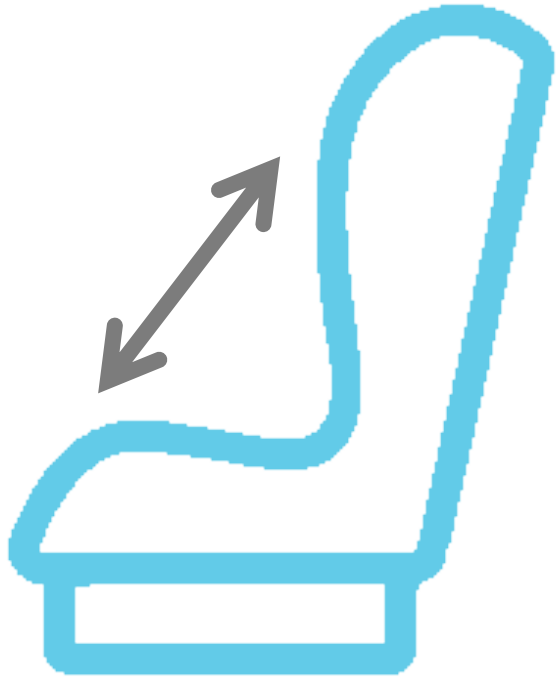


Child Safety Rear Door Locks

Prevent children from falling or getting out of a car

On/off switch usually on the side of the door that can't be seen when door is closed (see your vehicle's owner's manual)

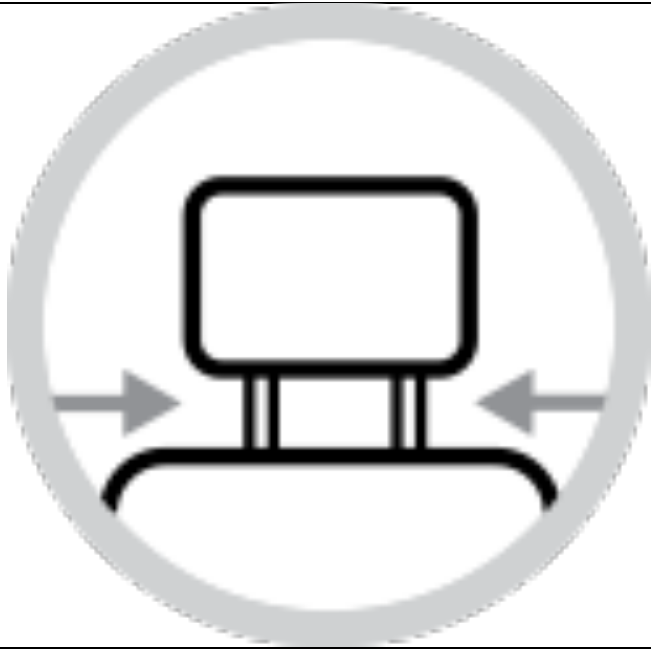
But beware, they can also prevent a child from getting out if they get trapped inside. Teach older children to use the front doors to get out if they ever become trapped inside.



Folding Seats

Keep foldable seats locked in upright positions.

Do not allow children to operate foldable seats on their own.



Head
rests

Keep head rests on
all seats. These
protect your neck in
a crash.

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No
iPads

Do not allow children to hold iPads in the car. In a crash, the glass screen may cause harm to your child.



Hot Tailpipes

Tailpipes get hot and
can burn children.
Make sure to keep
little hands away from
the tailpipe.

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Tire & Brake Safety

Check tires for under inflation or excessive wear. Check tire pressure and refill underinflated tires, including the spare, and look for uneven wear and check tread depth. An easy way to check tread depth is by placing a penny head-down in the tread groove. If the tread does not cover Lincoln's head, it's time to replace your tires.

Get an annual brake inspection. The braking system is your car's most important safety feature. Schedule a brake inspection and look for warning signs that your brakes may need replaced, such as an illuminated brake light or screeching, grinding or clicking noises when applying the brakes.



Water Danger

Always keep a resqme™ window breaker/seat belt cutter tool in your vehicle.

(available <https://www.kidsandcars.org/shop/>)



Never drive through water! It only takes a few inches of water to sweep a vehicle off the road.

If your vehicle becomes submerged in water;

1. Seat belts: off or cut
2. Window: open or break bottom corner of window*
3. Children (oldest to youngest): undo restraints, help them out through window

**Window-breaking tools do NOT work on laminated glass. They DO work on tempered glass.* Each window in your vehicle has a sticker indicating what type of glass it is. Know which windows in your vehicle have tempered glass, mark them with a special sticker. Know your escape options ahead of time.