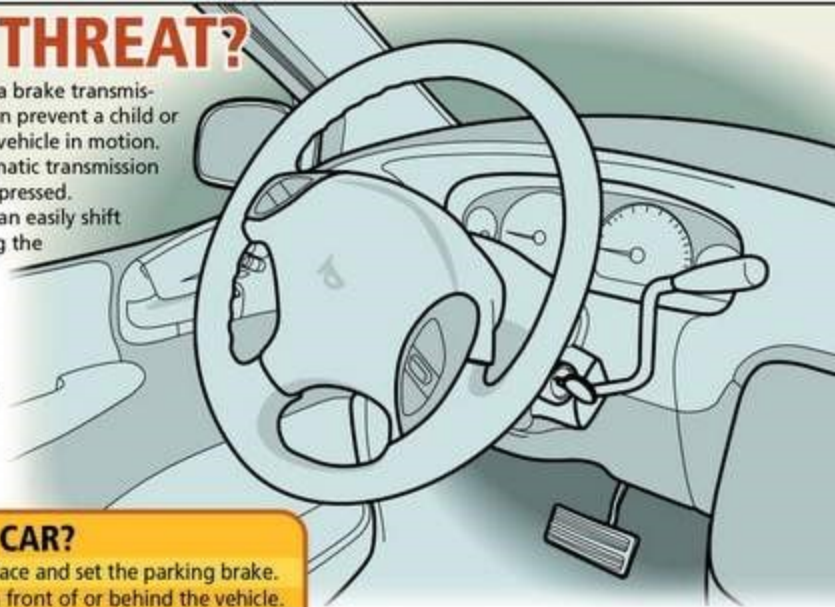


ROLLAWAY THREAT?

Many cars on the road today lack a brake transmission system interlock, or BTSI, that can prevent a child or adult from unintentionally setting a vehicle in motion. BTSI prevents movement of an automatic transmission from "park" until the brake pedal is pressed.

On vehicles without BTSI, a child can easily shift into neutral or drive without pressing the brake pedal provided the key has been left in the ignition and turned to an on position.

BTSI devices have been required on all vehicles sold in the United States only since 2010. To tell if your vehicle is equipped with the safety device, see box below.



HOW SAFE IS YOUR CAR?

- ▶ Park your vehicle on a level surface and set the parking brake.
- ▶ Make sure no one is standing in front of or behind the vehicle.
- ▶ Insert the key in the ignition and turn to the first position (radio will not turn on).
- ▶ Do not touch the brake and see if you shift out of "park."
- ▶ Repeat the fourth step in the next two key positions, including with the engine on.
- ▶ If you can shift from park in any key position without pressing the brake, your vehicle lacks BTSI in all key positions and could pose a rollaway threat.

Whether your vehicle has or doesn't have BTSI, never leave a child unsupervised in a vehicle, don't let children play behind the wheel — especially when keys are in the ignition — and remember to set the parking brake, experts say.

SOURCE: Kidsandcars.org

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