

# LOOK



# LEAVE

## BEFORE YOU

### Kids and Cars: How To Prevent Tragedy

- ◆ Never leave your car keys where children can get them.
- ◆ Keep car doors and trunks locked at all times, even in the garage or driveway.
- ◆ Teach children not to play in or around cars.
- ◆ Never leave your child unattended in a car, even if the windows are down and a windshield shade is in place or even just to run a quick errand.
- ◆ Make sure all children leave the vehicle when you reach your destination.
- ◆ Don't overlook sleeping infants!
- ◆ Make sure that the seat belt and seat surface are not too hot before buckling up your child.
- ◆ When you and your children exit the car, place a windshield shade in front and back windows to help cut down on the heat.
- ◆ Make sure that kids' arms, legs, fingers, and toes are safely inside before closing doors.
- ◆ Keep the rear fold-down seats closed to prevent kids from getting into the trunk from inside the car.
- ◆ Contact your auto dealership about getting your vehicle retrofitted with a trunk release mechanism.
- ◆ Be wary of child-resistant locks—make sure they function.
- ◆ If your child does get locked inside a car, get him or her out as soon as possible. If you can't get him or her out yourself, call 911 or your local emergency number immediately.

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Information adapted from Kids In Cars ([www.kidsincars.org](http://www.kidsincars.org)) and National Safe Kids Campaign ([www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org))

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services  
Child Care Licensing  
[www.lookbeforeyouleave.org](http://www.lookbeforeyouleave.org)