



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

PETS DIE IN HOT CARS

When it's just 72 degrees outside, the temperature inside a car can quickly soar to 116 degrees, even with the windows open and even in the shade. Every year in communities across the country, untold numbers of pets suffer brain damage, heat stroke and even death while their owners run "a quick errand."



IF YOU SEE A PET IN A HOT CAR:

- Write down the car's make, model and license plate number.
- Ask nearby businesses to make an announcement to find the car's owner.
- If the owner can't be found, call your local police or animal control and wait by the car for them to arrive.
- Check the laws in your area. In some states, Good Samaritans may use reasonable force to legally remove animals from hot cars.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Ask local store managers, shopping malls, restaurants and other businesses to post signs asking customers not to leave their pets in cars while shopping or dining. (You can download a flier at [humanesociety.org/hotcar](https://www.humanesociety.org/hotcar).)
- If your town or state doesn't have a law prohibiting leaving pets in parked cars, contact your elected officials to start lobbying for one.
- Be prepared to help. Keep phone numbers for your local animal control agency, police department and emergency veterinary clinic in your wallet or phone.