

HOW TO BREAK INTO YOUR CAR IF YOUR BABY IS LOCKED INSIDE

- 1 Maintain visual contact with your baby.**

Observe her medical condition. Trick your baby into thinking that you meant to create this situation. See “How to Keep Your Baby Calm” on the following page.
- 2 Try a key from a similar model of car.**

Ask passersby if they drive the same type of car. Ask if they will try to open your door with their key.
- 3 Use a coat hanger to break in.**

Bend a wire hanger into a long J. Square off the bottom of the J so that the square is about two inches wide. Slide the hanger into the door, between the window and the weather stripping. Feel for the end of the button rod and, when you have it, pull it up to open the lock.
- 4 Break the window.**

Don a pair of gloves, mittens, or socks to protect your hands from abrasion and injury. Select the window farthest from your child—a front window is ideal. Use a sharp object to punch through the middle of the window—try a rock, hammer, crowbar, piece of concrete from a broken curb, or even a low concrete parking-

spot marker. Hit the window with enough force to break the surface tension on the glass. Do not use your fist or a blunt object, neither of which will break the glass.

- 5 Call for help.**

Police officers and firefighters sometimes carry keys or lock-pick tools, or call a locksmith. A professional can often spring the lock in as little as three seconds with no damage to your car.

Be Aware

- In cold weather, do not warm up the car with the child inside. Many new cars automatically lock the doors once the ignition is turned on.
- Larger glass panels are less expensive to replace than fixed panels, such as small quarter panels.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR BABY CALM

- ★ **Pretend to be calm yourself.**

The baby will feed off of your fear if you reveal it.
- ★ **Play peek-a-boo.**

Begin with the standard hands-in-front-of-face style, then try hiding your face with a scarf or hat, and finally pop up from below various windows.
- ★ **Enlist the help of passersby.**

Select friendly-looking people and people with babies who can coo at your baby through the window. Keep your child entertained and happy.

- ★ **Hoist a small dog in front of a window.**
Turn the dog around to show its funny wagging tail.
- ★ **Hold up a magazine.**
Turn the pages in front of the window so baby can see bright images.
- ★ **Use makeup to color yourself like a clown.**
Smear lipstick on lips (go beyond true lip outline), cheeks, and tip of nose. Use eyeliner and eyeshadow to accentuate happy eyes and eyebrows.
- ★ **Do vigorous calisthenics.**
Babies think it's funny to see big people jump around.



**WORST-CASE
SCENARIO.**