

Car Care Corner

Tips To Avoid Making Your Car A Virtual Oven

(NAPSA)—When the temperature rises outside, the combination of extreme heat, direct sunlight and closed windows can turn a parked car into a virtual oven with dashboard temperatures reaching up to about 192° F.

Recent tests, conducted for Auto Expressions™, found that on an 89° F day, air trapped inside your vehicle can heat up within minutes. In a parked car without a sunshade, the dashboard heats up to 192° F, high enough to cook a chicken and the steering wheel tops out at 191° F, high enough to grill a hamburger.

In the same extreme conditions, a car using an accordion-style sunshade in the windshield was able to keep the cars interior an average of 43° F cooler.

Sunshades reflect sunrays by blocking the sunlight coming through the windshield, helping to reduce the heat and block 99 percent of damaging UV rays. Additionally, the use of a sunshade helps protect a car's interior, preventing possible fading, cracking or discoloration.

"Using a sunshade and other sun-protection products in your vehicle are simple and effective ways to help keep you and your car cooler," said Laurie Stevens, director of marketing for Auto Expressions™ accessories. "It's vital that drivers take extra precautionary steps to help protect themselves, their passengers and their vehicle from the sun's damaging rays."

Tips to Help Beat the Summer Heat:

- Park in the shade whenever possible.



Auto sunshades are a simple and effective way to keep your car cool.

- Use a sunshade to help reduce the heat buildup.
- Use a fabric-based steering wheel cover to help protect your hands.

- Open doors and let the air circulate in the car for a few minutes before getting into the car.

- Set your air conditioner to "regular or fresh air" before switching to "maximum."

How to Reduce Car Damage

- Use a sunshade to help reduce heat and sun-damage in your vehicle.

- Protect steering wheels, dashboard and seats with covers.

- Wash your vehicle regularly and use a wax with a UV absorber.

- Maintain vinyl and leather interiors with a UV absorbent cleaner/protectant.

- Have your cabin air filter and air-conditioning systems serviced annually.

To find out more about tips and products to reduce rising temperatures within the car this summer, visit www.auto-expressions.net.