



# DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS.



## IF YOU LOVE THEM, DON'T LEAVE THEM.

- > It's **never** ok to leave a dog alone in a car.
- > A car parked in the sun can reach over 50°C in less than 15 minutes.
- > Parking in shade and cracking a window does little to help.
- > Dogs are at extreme risk of heatstroke left in hot cars, and can suffer brain damage, organ failure, and death.
- > Heatstroke is a serious condition for dogs, with a mortality rate of 39-50%.
- > It is an offence under the Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018, to leave a dog in a hot vehicle if they are showing signs of heat stress, such as excessive panting, drooling or hyperventilation, and shade-seeking.
- > The dog owner and the owner of the vehicle can be fined \$300, and if the dog's welfare is significantly impacted, you could be prosecuted under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.
- > Take your dog with you when you leave the car, or leave them safely at home.

**If you see a dog left in a hot car,  
call 0800 SPCA NZ or the Police right away.**