Simple and easy tips to beating the heat in your car

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The Texas heat is on and motorists across North Texas are doing everything they can to stay cool. The heat and sun in the summer months can be brutal on your car or truck and can make it almost unbearable. It doesn't matter what color your car is or if you have air conditioning or not, everyone wants to keep their car a little bit cooler and will try any tricks available.

A common belief amongst people is that lighter colored cars will reflect light and be cooler. This may be scientifically true, but North Texas is on day 21 of straight 100+ degree days, and those kinds of temperatures will make any car or truck well over 140 degrees inside. Below are a few simple tips that will help make the heat a little more bearable.

1. When you are trying to find a parking spot in a parking lot or on the street, try to find a spot with shade. Any bit of shade will help keep the sun from beating down on your car and steaming through your windows. You may find a shady spot that is further from the door, but walking a little further may be worth it if it keeps your car cooler.

2. Leaving your windows cracked a little will help keep the hot air from building up in your car. This trick comes at a risk though. You never know when a summer rain storm will pop up and leave the inside of your car soaked. Leaving your windows cracked also leaves your car or truck prone to theft and break in. It only takes a few seconds for a criminal to pop your doors open through the cracked window, and everything in your car, even the car itself is at risk of being stolen.

3. Upon returning to your car, start your car, turn the air conditioning on, and roll your windows down for approximately one minute. To increase the effectiveness, drive for a minute with the windows down and air condition on. This process will help let the hot air flow out of your car, allowing the air conditioning to cool down and quickly cool your car off.

4. For those of you that are not fortunate to have working air conditioning in your car, your best chance of staying cooler is to purchase a fan that can attach to your interior and plugs into your cigarette lighter. These fans can be purchased at your local auto parts store or department stores like Target and Walmart.

5. Have your air conditioning system inspected and serviced. Having a properly working air conditioner will make a huge difference in keeping you cool. Even if your system is slightly low on refrigerant, it will not cool properly and may leave you sweating in your seats.

6. Window tint has been a popular aftermarket and factory addition to cars and trucks. If your car doesn't have tinted windows, they will make one of the biggest differences in keeping your car cool.

7. It is still amazing to see so many cars in Texas without sun shades in their front windshield. Auto sunshades are like sunglasses for your car. Utilizing a sunshade blocks the sun from shining in right through your front window and burning up the inside of your car. If you don't have a sunshade, they are very affordable and worth every penny.

8. If you have leather seats you may have noticed that you get burned fairly often when sitting in your car that's been baking in the parking lot for several hours. A simple towel or t-shirt placed on your seat will help keep you from burning your body parts on your nice leather seats.

Following the tips above will help make the extreme Texas heat a little more tolerable when you're driving around North Texas. Do your best to avoid the heat this summer and keep you, your friends, and family cool. Well, as cool as you can be with temperatures constantly above 100 degrees.

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