How to hotwire a 2000 chevy impala

Learn more While most newer model cars have done much to hide the wiring and otherwise outfit the steering column with safety measures to prevent hot-wiring, older models up to the mids are typically good candidates for hot-wiring. This is important to know if you lose your keys and need to get your car driving again. Use extreme caution when messing with wiring and always consult the Owner's Manual for specific instructions about the color coding and wires associated with your model. If you want to know how to get started hot-wiring the steering column and using other methods, this article will be helpful. You may need to hotwire your car if you've lost your keys or are in an emergency situation. Keep in mind that only older models of cars made up to the mids can be hotwired. Newer cars have built-in safety features that prevent them from being hotwired. Also, hotwiring your car can cause permanent damage, so only do this as a last resort. To get started, first insert the end of a flathead screwdriver into the ignition. Tap the back of the handle with a hammer to force the head of the screwdriver all the way in. Then, turn the screwdriver like a key. This alone might start your car, in which case you're finished. Peel the cover off and set it aside to reveal the wiring underneath. Locate the power and starter cables. The starter cables are typically the two brown wires, and the power cables are usually the two red wires, but you should consult your vehicle's manual to make sure. Put on some insulated gloves and cut the two power wires with a set of wire cutters. Strip the ends off to reveal the insulation, then twist the power wires together with a pigtail to turn the power in the vehicle on. Next, cut and strip the starter wires, being careful not to touch them together to avoid shorting them or shocking yourself. Hold them with both hands and carefully and slowly touch the exposed wires together. As soon as the car starts, release them and tape the ends with electrical tape to prevent further damage. If the steering wheel is locked up, consult your car's manual or look online to see if the locking mechanism can be tricked or adjusted with a screwdriver. You may need to stick a flathead screwdriver in between the joint where the steering column meets the wheel to keep it unlocked. To learn how to hotwire a car by drilling the lock pins, scroll down! Did this summary help you? Yes No.

Method 1 of Enter the car. Do not break into a car unless you own it and have documentation to prove it. Be aware that forced entry will set an alarm if the vehicle is equipped. This method, and in fact most methods of hot wiring a car, will only work on cars older than the mids. Newer models are equipped with a whole host of locking mechanisms in place to keep you from hot-wiring the car unless you're intimately familiar with the quirks of the model. If you try this on a Honda Civic, you're likely to end up setting off alarms and locking the starter, meaning no one can drive it. If you have access to the owner's manual, check to make sure the steering column and gear selector can be overridden. Serious damage to the shifting mechanism and steering column can result from this method. Remove the plastic cover on the steering column. These are usually held in place with concealed clips or 2 Phillips-type screws. Remove them and pull the access panels free. It's very difficult--if not impossible--to do this by hand, but if you think the model is sufficiently old to allow for it, you can give it a shot. Find the wiring harness connector. Once you remove the panels on the steering column, you should see a roll of electrical wires. Don't be intimidated; learn to recognize the right bundle. There will typically be three main bundles of wires: Wires leading to the column-mounted controls on one side, like lights, cruise control, and other indicators Wires leading to the column controls on the other side, like wipers or seat warmers Wires leading to the battery, ignition, and starter leading straight up the steering column. Pull aside the battery, ignition, and starter wire bundle. One of these will be the primary power supply for the ignition switch, one will be ignition wires, and the other will be the starter. The other colors will vary depending on the manufacturer. Read the owner's manual or look online to be sure you can identify all possibilities. Again, the only way to be sure is to read the owner's manual. You're not MacGyver; messing with the wrong wires will get you electrocuted. Strip about 1 inch 2. Wrap them with electrician's tape if available, and do not allow them to short against metal vehicle components. Connecting these will provide electricity for the ignition components, so the engine is able to run when the starter is turned. You should see the dash lights and other

electrical components come alive at this point. If all you want to do is listen to the radio, you're done. If you want to drive the car, you'll need to spark the starter wire, which can get dangerous. This will be live, so you need to extremely careful and keep close hold of your bare wires. Touch the end of this to the connected battery wires. Don't try to twist it on, just spark it against the battery wires to start the car. Rev the engine. If you get the car to start, rev it a few times so you don't stall out and have to do this process again. Once the engine starts, you can detach the starter wire and continue on your way. When you want to kill the engine, simply unfasten the battery wires from the ignition wires and the car will die. Break the steering lock. You've got the car started and you're ready to get your engine pumping and let your car loose, right? While your car is running, the steering column is probably locked at this point, meaning that you'll have to break it to be able to steer, unless you want to drive straight off a cliff or something. If you already tried to jam your screwdriver in there earlier because you've got a mids to mids vehicle, the lock is probably already broken. Some models respond well to a healthy dose of elbow grease. Crank the wheel hard to either side as if you were trying to twist it free. You could also use a hammer to fix in the wheel and use for leverage. You should hear it break and the wheel will be free, so you'll be able to drive normally. Method 2 of Your goal with this method is to destroy the lock pins and allow you to turn the car over using a screwdriver, rather than the key. This is commonly done on cars the keys to which are lost. Drill in about the length of a key. Every lock pin has two sections followed by a spring, so drill it more than once, removing the drill each time to allow the bits of the lock inside to fall into place. Put the screwdriver in the same way you would put your key in. It doesn't have to go in deep because the pins are already broken. Use it the same way you use your key, just turn it about a quarter-turn in a clockwise direction to try to turn the engine over. Method 3 of Open the hood and locate the red coil wire. Both the plug and coil wires are located at the rear of almost all V8 engines. Four-cylinder engines have them placed on the right side, near the center of the engine. Six-cylinder engines are on the opposite: left side, near the center of the engine. Get out your jump cables. Run a jump cable from the positive battery terminal to either the positive side of the coil, or the red wire that leads to the coil. This will give power to the dashboard, which is essential if you want to start the engine. Locate the starter solenoid. On Ford cars, it is on the right-side fender well, near the battery. On GM cars, it is on the starter under the steering wheel. Unlock the steering wheel. Place a flat blade screwdriver in the top center of the steering column, pushing between the wheel and the column. You want to push the locking pin away from the wheel. Don't worry, you're allowed to be rough here. The locking pin will not break or set off any alarms and you should be able to find the solenoid should be underneath. Connect the solenoid to the positive battery terminal. You will see a small wire at the top of the solenoid and the positive battery cable below. Remove the ignition switch wire from the solenoid and, using an insulated screwdriver, short the solenoid's positive post to the terminal where the ignition switch connects. Doing so will apply 12 volts directly from the battery. This should activate the solenoid, and the starter should crank the car. Without gas the engine will not be able to create a spark to move the pistons. Not Helpful 17 Helpful You should follow the directions that are laid out in the article if you are going to hotwire a care. Not Helpful 29 Helpful Is there a way to crank my engine from under the hood so that I can spray starting fluid in while it's turning over? You could use a starter switch. Hook it up to the battery, and whenever you pull the trigger it'll be the same as turning the key. Not Helpful 32 Helpful Paul Troy Jr, That car has PassLock 1 on it so you would need to bypass that in addition to hot wiring it. Not Helpful 33 Helpful Most likely, when you hotwire it just engages the engine. Its does not unlock steering column for you. Not Helpful 18 Helpful You could also use a hammer to fix in the wheel and provide leverage. You should hear it break and the wheel will be free so you'll be able to drive normally. Not Helpful 31 Helpful Depending on the year and model of the vehicle, you may be out of luck. If the vehicle has an anti-theft immobilizer system, then it will not start. Otherwise, take the ignition apart carefully and follow the wires coming in from battery and out to starter, and touch them long enough for the engine to start. Not Helpful 6 Helpful Yes but it damages the ignition and if done improperly, it can damage the column as well. If the car is equipped with an immobilizer you will be able to turn the dash on but still wont be able to start it. Not Helpful 38 Helpful My car keys were stolen from my house. I need to move my car or it will be yellow stickered. I need to press unlock on my lost key to be able to turn the car over. How can I get around this to move my car? If your car doesn't use an immobilizer, you should be able to start it using a wiring diagram. Use the diagram to trace how the ignition is set up. If that doesn't work, you will probably have to get the car towed. Not Helpful 26 Helpful You can't. The Ford Focus has pats passive anti-theft system and uses a chip in the key that is recognized by the PCM and allows the car to start. Unanswered Questions. How do I hack into modern car frequency keys to hotwire them? Can I use these methods on a Mercury Mariner? Include your

email address to get a message when this question is answered. You risk causing significant damage to your vehicle if you hotwire it. Helpful Not Helpful Vehicles with a computer chip in the ignition switch cannot be hot wired, the chip enables the Electronic Control Module to function, and without it, the car will not run. Never leave the ignition wires twisted together when you finish running the engine. This can burn up the ignition system of the vehicle, and will at least discharge the battery. Helpful 2 Not Helpful 1. If the ignition wires separate while driving, the engine will instantly die, and you may find yourself without power, steering, or brakes. Helpful 0 Not Helpful 0. Related wikiHows How to. How to. Co-authors: Updated: February 17, Categories: Car Batteries and Ignitions. Article Summary X You may need to hotwire your car if you've lost your keys or are in an emergency situation. Nederlands: Een auto starten zonder sleutel. Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 2,, times. Very helpful,thank you wikiHow! Matthew Woods Sep 7, Although he thought there would be no damage Anonymous Sep 25, Thanks for this information. Anonymous Jan 11, Rather, get a qualified mechanic to help. Muzaffar Qureshi Jul 27, I have to try to find out if it works! Anonymous Aug 26, Josh Clements Sep 19, Anonymous Dec 21, More reader stories Hide reader stories. Did this article help you? Cookies make wikiHow better. By continuing to use our site, you agree to our cookie policy. About This Article. Mealani Jones Jul 17, Share yours! More success stories Hide success stories. Related Articles How to. By signing up you are agreeing to receive emails according to our privacy policy. Follow Us. Feeling burned out? Refresh your mental health in just 1 week. Take the Course. X Help us do more We've been helping billions of people around the world continue to learn, adapt, grow, and thrive for over a decade. Let's do this! To hotwire a Chevy truck, the panel covering the ignition system and steering column should be unscrewed and removed. The screws are usually located directly underneath the steering wheel. Next, the wires that are connected to the ignition system must be disconnected. Strip the two red wires, and connect them together. Next, strip the brown wires, and connect them together, when the engine starts disconnect the brown wires. The ignition system works as a switch with 2 modes. When the key is turned one notch or two notches in cases of cars with steering wheel locks , the red wires are connected, completing the power circuit and providing electricity to the car. When the key is turned to the second mode, this connects the two brown wires together. The brown wires are part of the circuit for the starter motor. When they are connected, the power circuit that was completed by the first notch is fed to the starter motor. The starter motor turns the engine, which pulls fuel in to the cylinders. The spark plugs are also given power, as the sparks ignite the fuel in the cylinder, and the recurring explosion of fuel pushes the piston. The starter motor should be disconnected when the engine starts. The internal combustion starts a chain reaction which keeps fuel flowing into the engine, powering the spark plugs and providing repetitive combustion inside the cylinders. The pistons are pushed by the explosion, and the resulting kinetic energy is used to drive the wheels, and in many cases the alternator. The alternator is an electricity generator that is turned by the engine, and as it turns, it charges up the car's battery. More From Reference. How to Use a Personal Loan Calculator. Mailing a Letter to Japan? Hot-wiring a car is generally done as an illegal activity. However, there are times when there is a legitimate need to start your vehicle without turning the key-maybe your ignition lock tumbler has failed or you lost your keys. The specifics of hot-wiring a car will vary from model to model, but the general method should remain similar. The method provided takes more time than ripping and cutting up wires and panels, but it eliminates damage to the car's interior. Locate the ignition tumbler, the spot where you normally put your key. Remove the covers and panels around the tumbler. Examine the ignition setup. There should be a panel with five to eight wires clipped to the rear of the tumbler. Remove the panel and try to manually turn the ignition switch using a screwdriver. If you can do this, then you are done! When you turn the ignition switch usually with a key , it rotates a pin or lever on the back side of the tumbler. The panel is essentially a switch with four positions: off, accessories, full on and ignition. The different positions of the key correspond to each of these positions. Research the color coding of the ignition wires for your specific car model. If you are not able to manually turn the ignition switch with a screwdriver, you will have to strip wires to "hot-wire" the car. Locate the "on" positive and negative wires in the steering column. They should run up to the ignition tumbler and be color-coded. Pull those wires from the ignition, strip a portion of each and twist them together. The car will now be on and ready for ignition. This is where you truly hot-wire a car. These wires carry a charge, which is why they are called "hot. Find the starter wires and pull them from the ignition tumbler as well. Strip the ends and touch these wires together briefly. This should activate the starter, firing up the car. If you have done everything properly, your car will now be running. Do not leave these wires touching each other once the car is running. Cover up any exposed wires to avoid painful electric shocks. Drive away and have your ignition repaired or a new key made so you do not have to hot-wire the car regularly. This article was

written by a professional writer, copy edited and fact checked through a multi-point auditing system, in efforts to ensure our readers only receive the best information. To submit your ques

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 tions or ideas, or to simply learn more, see our about us page: link below. How to Hot-Wire a Car by Contributor. Step 1 Locate the ignition tumbler, the spot where you normally put your key. Step 2 Examine the ignition setup. Step 3 Research the color coding of the ignition wires for your specific car model. Step 4 Locate the "on" positive and negative wires in the steering column. Step 5 Pull those wires from the ignition, strip a portion of each and twist them together. Step 6 Find the starter wires and pull them from the ignition tumbler as well. Tips Remember that just because the car is running, the steering wheel may not operate. Many cars have the steering wheel lock hooked into the ignition tumbler as an antitheft measure. So you cannot unlock the steering wheel without the key. Screwdriver Wire strippers Insulated gloves. Be careful around live wires. They carry a significant charge and can give painful shocks. Touch only the insulation and wear insulated gloves, if possible.