

To transport flowers in a hot car, cool the car first and keep the flowers out of direct sun. Give the stems access to water, secure the arrangement upright, and make the trip as short as you can.

Cool the car before loading

A parked car can become much hotter than the air outside, so do not put flowers inside while you get ready. Start the car and run the air conditioning until the cabin feels comfortably cool. Keep the flowers indoors or in the shade while you wait.

Place them in the passenger area rather than the trunk, where you may have less control over the temperature. Choose a spot away from sunny windows and air vents. A blast of cold air can dry petals and leaves, even though the rest of the car feels comfortable.

Plan your route before you pick up the flowers. If you need to make other stops, do them first so the flowers can go straight to their destination. Even a short delay in a parked car can expose them to intense heat.

Keep the stems watered and secure

For a bouquet, a container with a little clean water can help keep the stems hydrated. Choose one that is deep enough to support them without needing to fill it near the rim. If the bouquet is wrapped, check that the ends of the stems can reach the water.

Set the container on the floor behind a front seat or in another stable, shaded spot. A box can keep it from sliding or tipping. Pack clean towels around the container inside the box for extra support.

- Keep the flowers upright, with room around the petals.

- Use only enough water to cover the stem ends and limit spills.
- Keep heavy bags and loose objects away from the flowers.
- For a vase arrangement, support the vase itself rather than pressing on the blooms.

If you cannot use a container, wrap the cut ends in damp paper towels and cover the towels with a plastic bag. Secure the bag around the stems, not the flower heads. This is a temporary way to keep the ends damp, so put the flowers in water as soon as you arrive.

Help the flowers settle after the trip

Carry the flowers inside promptly and remove any plastic covering from the stems. If they are a loose bouquet, trim a little from the ends with clean, sharp scissors or shears, then place them in a clean vase of fresh water.

Keep the vase in a cool spot away from direct sunlight and heating or cooling vents. Remove any leaves that would sit below the waterline. If the arrangement is already in a vase, check its water level and top it up as needed.

Questions about flowers in a hot car

Can you leave flowers in the car while you run an errand?

It is best not to. A parked car can heat up quickly, and direct sun can make the flowers wilt. Take them inside with you or arrange to collect them after your errand.

Should you put flowers next to an air conditioning vent?

No. Cool the cabin, but keep the flowers out of the direct airflow. Choose a shaded place where the container can stand securely instead.

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