

## **Can a Car or Truck be used as a boat in times of emergency?**

By put flotation like star foam, bubble rap, inflatable balls, empty water bottles, 5 gal empty buckets with lid in place, Car inner tubes, inflatable swimming pools or other items into the trunk and under the hood and tied down below the dash board-steering wheel of the front seat and tied under and to the sides of the car.

Possibly break out the back window. One would be sitting in water in the back seat but ones head would be above water. To get an idea, the water level could be up to the top of the trunk and the top of the hood of the car.

The question is would the vehicle float?

From the last survey taken, an average car weights about 4,080 lbs. 1 cubic foot of water weights 62.4 lbs. Thus it would take 65 cubic feet of taped air or more to make a car float. This is a 8x8x1 ft slab or slightly bigger than a 4x4x4 cube. A car that is 5 ft wide by 14 ft long and having an average of 1 foot of flotation would give 70 cubic feet.

Bottom line: It might be doable with some of the larger cars or trucks that have a lot of space to pack in floatable objects. I doubt it would be possible for any of the smaller cars. The issue is one would be sitting in water and it would be temporary at best solution. I doubt it would work if there is any kind of wave action that might turn the car over. Also, if one put the flotation too low, like a lot under the car then the center of gravity being above this would make it very easy to turn over when in water.