



# how

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Photo Illustrations by Kathleen Gerber





# What's something YOU wish you knew how to do?



"To play guitar."  
Abby Pritchard,  
freshman



"To style hair professionally."  
Nicola McCutcheon,  
sophomore



"To clog dance."  
Christina Rommelfanger,  
junior



"To be a ventriliquist."  
Jazmyne Coker,  
senior

Graphic by MeganMorrissey



## Responsible Drivers: Educated about their cars

Alex Eilers

Sophomore Annie Coder's eyes fall to the partially-deflated tire on her father's gold Honda Accord. She holds one limb of the crossed lug-nut wrench while the car jack and spare tire sit on her driveway. The usual flat tire doesn't occur at such a convenient place. But, this job isn't a necessity; it's a challenge.

"My dad made me prove to him that I could change a tire," Coder said.

On one of the nicer winter days, right before Coder turned 16, her father walked her through the process of changing a tire.

Even though the family is a member of AAA Roadside Assistance, Coder's father wants to make sure, if she is ever stranded without a cell phone, she knows how to change a tire by herself.

She jacks the car up, unscrews the bolts to take off the rim, removes and replaces the old tire and reassembles the rim, making sure the bolts are tight without the help of her father.

The experience gave Coder one basic car skill and a feeling of accomplishment. "It feels good to know how to do it," Coder said.

Having a car creates new freedoms for Coder. She is able to drive herself to babysitting jobs, no longer needing to wait for her parents to pick her up.

It has also opened up job opportunities, such as a driving nanny position this summer.

Owning a car is also a major responsibility because so many things may go wrong: crashes, flat tires and dead batteries.

While Coder is one of the 16 percent of Marian girls who know how to change a tire, she joins the majority of the Marian population

who does not know how to jump a car, according to a March homeroom survey.

**"My dad made me prove to him that I could change a tire."  
- Annie Coder,  
sophomore**

Something as simple as leaving the headlights on or not shutting the door completely may cause the battery to die, and the engine won't start when it is time to leave.

If there are jumper cables and a fellow driver, there is no need to worry.

Although opening the hood may be intimidating, full of foreign heat-radiating tubes and compartments that have a possibility of starting on fire, all drivers should learn this basic car skill in case of emergency.

While Coder drives to her nanny-ing job this summer, with the windows down and the radio on, she will have confidence knowing if her tire were to blow-up she could change it.

Hopefully, she doesn't leave her lights on.

## HOW TO JUMP YOUR CAR

STEP ONE:



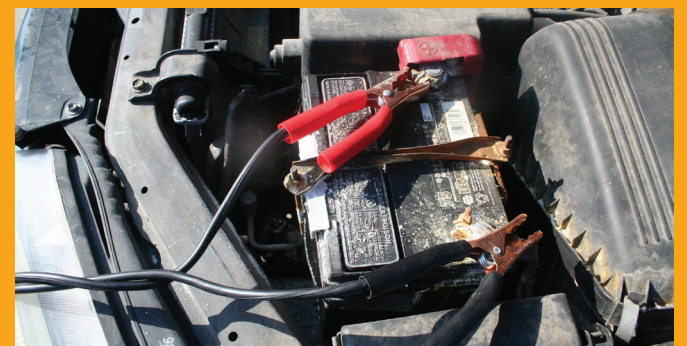
Park the cars front bumper to front bumper.

STEP TWO:



Find the jumper cables.

STEP THREE:



- Connect the corresponding jumper cables to the metal part of the battery.
- Red goes with the positive, and black goes to the negative.
- Start the engine on the live car, then start the dead car.

Detailed video explanation:

[http://www.ehow.com/video\\_511\\_jump-start-car.html](http://www.ehow.com/video_511_jump-start-car.html)

Graphic by Alex Eilers