

## How to use your Backseat Baby Alarm

Call Joe Dorsey the inventor, directly at 859-620-3331 if any difficulties or questions

In a nutshell, the BSBA is automatic turn on and manual turn off:

1. TO TURN ON, SIMPLY OPEN EITHER REAR DOOR. It will turn itself on automatically and you will hear a “double ping”. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 confirmation tones to let you know that it is on and working properly.
2. GET IN, LISTEN FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> CONFIRMATION TONE. When you get in to drive away, you will hear a music box chime sound when you open your driver’s door. This is your 2<sup>nd</sup> confirmation tone. You must hear both sounds before driving away.
3. GET OUT – YOUR REMINDER CHIME WILL AUTOMATICALLY PLAY. Now that you have gotten both confirmation tones, it’s safe to drive away. Now anytime you open your driver’s door to get out, you will hear another chime. This is your reminder chime, just like if you forget your keys – only the BSBA is reminding you of something far more important. You can get out mid-trip (say for gas) and it will still sound later when you arrive at your destination.
4. RETRIEVE CHILD, PRESS THE BLUE “OFF/SLEEP” SWITCH TO TURN OFF/PUT IN SLEEP MODE TILL NEXT TIME. When you open the back door again to get your child out, simply reach out and press the blue “Sleep/Off” switch mounted on the top of the rear door panel. This will make it go to sleep and not sound till the next time you open one of the rear doors. Thus, if you are get in on your own without your baby, it won’t sound. When you press the switch, you will hear a voice message that says, ‘The alarm in now off’.

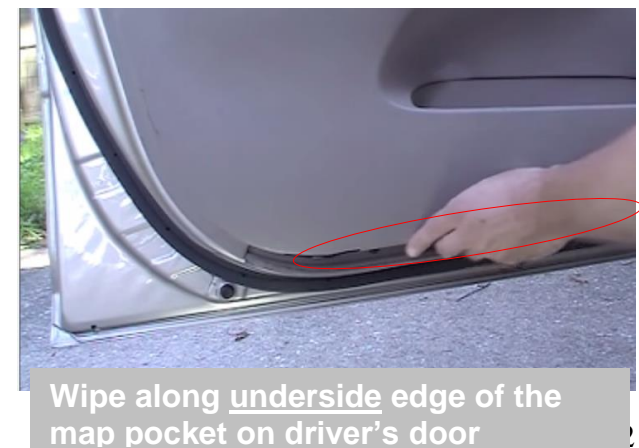
### **ABOUT THE UNDERLYING TECHNOLOGY**

The Backseat Baby Alarm uses 3 magnetic reed sensors coupled with a magnet on each door to sense the opening of the doors and thus turn it on as well as trigger the reminder chime. Reed sensors are the exact same thing placed on windows and doors in home security systems to sense the opening of the window or door. Thus as you will appreciate, I purposely chose these type of sensors because they have been around for decades and used in millions of homes, which suggests that they have been found to be very reliable and dependable.

I also purposely chose to hard wire the components together rather than using Blue Tooth, etc and make it wireless because Blue Tooth or any kind of wireless transmitter can be interfered with by stray electromagnetic waves as you drive around. These waves cause annoying false alarms or worse, cause the link to be dropped and the alarm no longer function properly. **My number 1 priority is reliability rather than having “cool” components. Wires might not be “sexy” but they are impervious to interference.**

**GETTING STARTED WITH ACTUAL INSTALLATION: PRE- CLEAN 9 ATTACHEMENT SPOTS WITH ALCOHOL SWABS:**

- As usual, the first step is to **put in batteries before installing in the car**. The Backseat Baby Alarm uses 3 AA's. Only use fresh, brand name alkaline batteries. You will need one of those small Phillips head screwdrivers to open the lid on the back.
- Second, **get some alcohol swabs or cotton balls with rubbing alcohol ready**. You will be "peeling & sticking" a total of 9 things on to various points in your car so to get a good strong bond, you have to **wipe clean the spots shown below**. Believe me, you will be shocked by how much unseen grime will show up on the swab when you do. Do not skip this step.



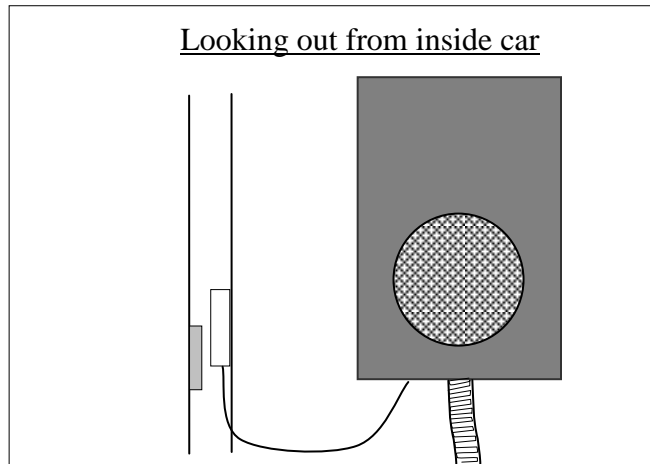
## ATTACH THE “BLACK BOX”

- **Peel and stick the “black box” to the upper part of the roof support column on the driver’s side.** **HINT:** It’s easiest if you move your driver’ seat all the way forward and then sit in the backseat when doing this.
- **Where ?** Basically , just a few inches below the height of **where your left shoulder would hit if you were sitting in the driver’s seat and leaned against the column.** This is to get it close to your ear.
- **Press and hold for at least 30 seconds** to get good adhesion.
- Sit in driver’s seat and check you don’t hit it with your shoulder or elbow if you move around. The adhesive Velcro strips can be repositioned if you need to but not too many times.

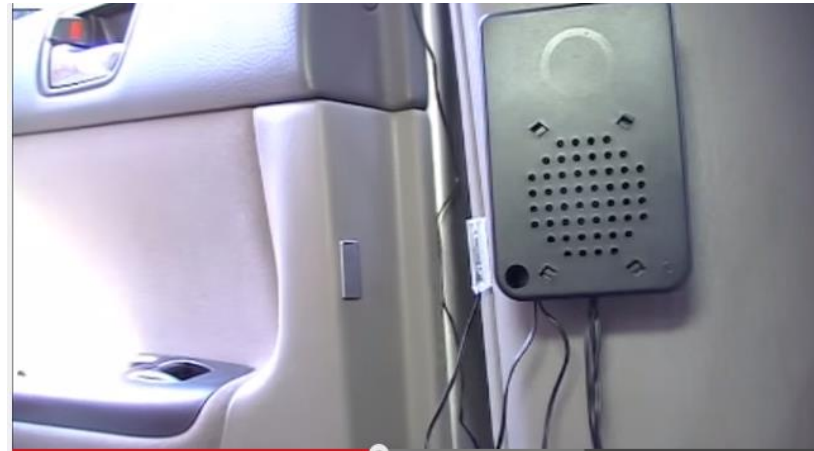


**ATTACH: SENSOR, MAGNET & BLACK TAPE STRIP, AND SLEEP/OFF SWITCH ON DRIVER'S SIDE BACK DOOR.**

- Grab the sensor (the clear plastic rectangle with the glass tube inside) coming out of the left hole and peel & stick it onto the side edge of the column as far "in" as it will go as shown.
- Peel & stick a magnet onto the inside edge of the door so that it is across from and below the sensor you just attached. When we say "below", we mean so that the two pieces are offset about halfway with the magnet always overlapping the sensor's wire as shown in the diagram here.



- Apply the black tape over the magnet. This is to keep out moisture, etc. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.**
- Grab the other wire coming out of the left hole with the blue Off/Sleep switch at its end. Peel and stick it to the inside top edge of the back door in the corner near the column. NOTE: If you have another older child and afraid they might play with it, attach it to the inside edge's top corner so that is inaccessible. It is so thin it won't be a problem; you can close your door on it. (see photo on next page for reference)



## GIVE THE BACK DOOR SET UP A TEST RUN

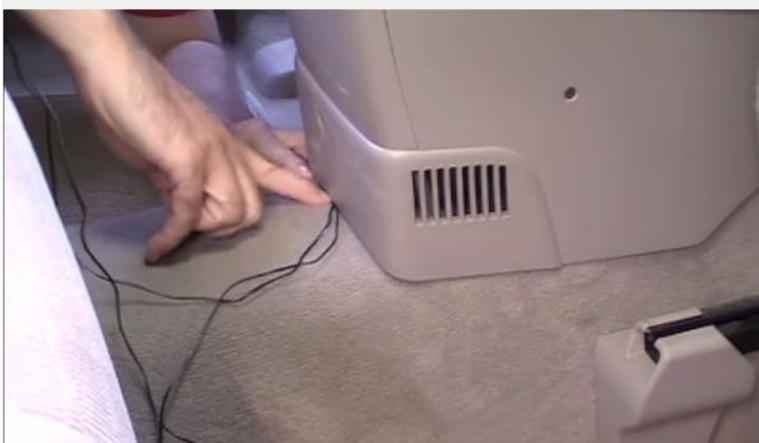
1. To test, just open the back door.
2. If the sensor and magnet are lined up right, you will hear a “double ping” sound when you open the back door. This indicates you woke the alarm up successfully from Sleep mode.
3. Close the door shut. There should be no sound. If you do, this indicates the sensor and magnet are not lined up across from each other (if looking from above). Move the sensor a bit more towards the inside of the car. Detach the clear plastic Velcro from its original spot you put it at and reattach it to the new spot closer in.
4. Open the door again and then press the “Off/Sleep” switch. You should hear the unit say, *“The alarm is now off”*



Above photo shows overall set up of magnet on the inside edge of back door, sensor on the inside edge of the roof support column, and the “black box”. Wire seen is the wire going up to the “Sleep/Off” switch attached to the top edge of the door panel. You can tuck that into the rubber weather stripping if you want a neater appearance.



Photo to left shows an alternate place to put the Off/Sleep switch if you have another (mischievous) child and afraid they might play with or tap the switch if it's out in the open on the top edge. Put it here and they won't be able to get to it. Don't worry, it's so thin that you can close your door on it.



**NOW DO THE SAME FOR THE PASSENGER'S SIDE BACK DOOR.**

- Take the 2 wires with the sensor and Off/Sleep switch at their ends that are coming out of the tubing and undo them from their twistors. These will go under the seats and carpet mats to the other side of the car to the passenger's side back door.
- Take the wire for each and snake them over to the other side (under the driver's seat, over the "hump" and around the center console, back under the passenger's seat, and to the back door). When you do so, tuck the wires under the console as much as possible so they do not get pulled or played with. The carpet should allow this to be done in most cars.
- Now peel & stick your sensor, magnet, and Sleep/Off switch just like you did before – but with one difference. The sensor and magnet are attached much lower on the column and door. As can be seen in the photo below, just place them 5 or 6 inches up from the bottom edge of the door frame.
- Attach the Off/Sleep Switch to the top edge of the door. You can tuck the wire into the rubber insulation strip you will find on the door frame to keep it tucked away and not hanging loose.
- Now test this door just like you did the other door.



## NOW ATTACH A SENSOR, MAGNET, AND BLACK TAPE FOR DRIVER'S DOOR

1. Before starting, open the back door to turn the alarm on.
2. The driver's door magnet can go in 2 possible places. The preferable place is to put it inside the map pocket molded into your door. It will work there if the "floor" of the pocket goes all the way down to within about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to the door frame. In some cars, the map pocket is not very deep and this will not work and a preliminary visual check will tell you clearly "No". However, if it looks like the gap might be under  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", test it out:
  - a. Place the magnet into the map pocket, moving it to the inside facing left corner. Sometimes you can do it with your hand, sometimes you need a pencil to move it around if the opening of the map pocket is too narrow.
  - b. Kneel outside the open door, grab the sensor (it will be the only one left, sticking out of the black tubing), and manually place it under the bottom edge of the map pocket where you think the magnet is and pull it away. If you hear the sound trigger, that's a good sign the gap is sufficiently narrow to work. So if it is,
  - c. Peel and stick the sensor onto the door frame that corresponds to the spot where the magnet is above in the map pocket. This might take some trial and error. It helps to mark where your magnet is by placing the last strip of black tape on the map pocket and then sit in the driver's seat and look down to see where it lines up with a spot on the door frame.
  - d. Test it a few times by opening and closing the door (be sure the alarm is ON beforehand by opening the back door!). If it looks good, place the strip of black tape over the magnet to make sure it doesn't move in the future.
3. If magnet in map pocket doesn't work, attach the magnet to the underside edge of the map pocket/door. Attach it is on the area of the underside edge where it flattens out just after the corner curve.
4. As above, peel & stick your sensor on to the door frame where it lines up with the magnet above. This might take some trial & error but just test out and move a bit till you get the sound to trigger. As in the diagram before, the sensor and magnet should be offset about halfway.



Shows magnet attached in the 2<sup>nd</sup> possible place – on the underside of map pocket vs. Inside the map pocket.

