



ALWAYS BUCKLE-UP

Motor vehicle accidents are a leading cause of injury and death for young children. A crash at just five miles per hour can send an unbuckled child crashing into the dashboard or windshield.

Infants and small children should use car seats which meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. Infants should be securely buckled into car seats that face the rear of the car. Toddlers and small children can be buckled into front-facing car seats. Older children can use a booster seat along with the lap belt and shoulder harness.

Children are much safer in a car seat than in a lap belt and shoulder harness. Find out if your child's car seat is designed for the size and age of your child. Follow the instructions carefully when using a car seat. The seat should be buckled in the car so tightly that it doesn't move more than an inch.

It is safer if the child is buckled into the back seat of the vehicle. If your vehicle has air bags, never place a car seat in the front passenger side! Children should not ride in the front seat with an air bag until they are tall enough to wear a regular lap and shoulder belt properly.

Children are more likely to buckle-up themselves if they see you buckle-up, too. Teach them to buckle up and "ride the safe way," even when you are not there to watch them.