



**Road Traffic**  
Management Corporation



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# Seatbelts and Child Restraints





Seatbelts are lifesavers. Research indicates that your chances of survival in a collision are higher if you wear a seatbelt.

During a crash, seatbelts keep you in place so your head and chest are less likely to hit the

windshield, dashboard, vehicle interior or other passengers.

Seatbelts help belted drivers to maintain control of the vehicle by keeping them in the driver seat. This gives them the opportunity to prevent a second crash.

It is a common misconception that a seatbelt can trap you in a vehicle if it catches fire or becomes submerged.

In fact, a seatbelt helps prevent serious injuries - resulting in you being conscious and able to free yourself from a vehicle which is in danger of sinking in water or catching alight.

Seatbelts are designed to be released with just one hand and it takes just one second to un-buckle your seatbelt.

Many road fatalities occur close to the victim's home. Collisions can happen anywhere and anytime. You should never travel unless the driver and all passengers are buckled-up.

It is law that all vehicle occupants (rear and front) are to be buckled up at all times.

Children are at greater risk in a collision. Their bodies are not yet fully developed and therefore less able to absorb the sudden impact of a collision.



Infants and children need a child restraint system that accommodates their size and weight, and can adapt to cope with the different stages of their development. Use a SABS approved child restraint and make sure you install it according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Regardless of how much your children beg and plead to be allowed to ride in the front passenger seat, it's important that you stand your ground and refuse to negotiate with them on the subject, your child's safety is non-negotiable.

Remember that using seatbelts and child restraints will protect you and keep you safe in your seat.

