Safety Belts & Child Restraints

Child Safety Tips

Safety Belts

- Florida law requires the use of seat belts or child restraint devices by drivers of motor vehicles, all front seat passengers and all children riding in a vehicle under 18.

- Florida’s safety belt law is a primary enforcement law, meaning that an officer can stop a vehicle and issue a citation simply for observing a safety belt or restraint violation.

- Children should be in the rear seats until at least age 12, since deployed front seat air bags can be dangerous to children.

Child Restraints – Car Seats and Booster Seats

- Florida law requires children age 5 and under to be secured properly in a crash-tested, federally approved child restraint device.

- Children ages 0 to 3 must be in child restraint devices of a separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated child seat.

- Children age 4 and 5 must be in a separate carrier, integrated child seat or booster seat.

- The best child seat is one that fits your child, fits your car and that drivers will use correctly every time.

- Read the car seat’s instruction manual and the portion of your vehicle's owner manual when you install a car seat.

- Remember to check for car seat and booster seat recalls.

- You can visit a local FHP station to ask a certified trooper to help you install your seat. Call your local FHP troop to set up an appointment.