



Short Safety Subject

Short Safety Subjects are provided by the Public Safety Business Center, Fort Bragg, NC. Our intent is to provide safety topics for the purpose of increasing safety awareness and improving safety performance. Additional Short Safety Subjects are available on the PSBC Business Management Web Site at:

www.bragg.army.mil/psbc-bm/PubsAndForms/ShortSafetySubjects.htm

Why Wear Seatbelts?

Many states now have laws requiring drivers and passengers alike to wear seatbelts or pay a stiff price. Sadly, many people still resist using seat belts and pay an even stiffer price - their lives. If you're still unconvinced that seat belts can mean the difference between life and death in an auto accident, take a moment to consider the following information.

The Excuses

- 1) "I can't move with those belts on - they're so uncomfortable!"
- 2) "It's better to be thrown out of the car than be trapped in by a seatbelt."
- 3) "I only drive around town; how can I get hurt going 25 miles per hour?"
- 4) "I'm a good driver. I've never had an accident."

The Answers

- 1) The fact is newer seatbelt design allows for total freedom of motion while driving. The latching device that secures the belt only goes into effect when the car jolts abruptly, as in an accident.
- 2) People who are thrown from cars are 25 times more likely to be killed than if they had been held securely in their seats. Further, in the unlikely event your car catches fire or is submerged, seatbelts can keep you from getting "knocked out" and greatly improve your chances of escape.
- 3) The majority of all car accidents occur within 25 miles of home - and 80% of all serious injuries and fatalities occur in cars going 40 miles per hour or slower.
- 4) You may be a good driver, but there are situations beyond your control such as weather and road conditions (not to mention other drivers) that can affect your safety. Drive preventively and use your seatbelt.

Safe and Secure

When all is said and done, it pays to remember that seatbelts were designed with your safety and security in mind. Seatbelts, like safety seats for children, can make a life and death difference if you or your loved ones are involved in an automobile accident. Use your seatbelt. The life you save may be your own.