



Buckle Up! Wearing Seat Belts Save Lives. Maybe YOUR Life!

Online Driving School's TOP FIVE reasons why people don't wear seat belts and their defensive driving responses.

([PRWEB](#)) October 22, 2004 -- The Division of Highway Traffic Safety says that, more than 2,000 unbuckled drivers and front seat passengers died on New Jersey's roadways in the past 10 years and approximately 700 unbuckled drivers and front seat passengers were thrown out of their vehicles during crashes and killed.

But even in the face of these sobering facts, many drivers still have excuses why they don't wear seat belts.

Terry Haggin, CEO of www.drivingschoolonline.com has heard many of these reasons and has listed the TOP FIVE reasons their students give for not wearing seatbelts and his companies answers to each.

Dangerous Reason One: "I don't need a safety belt when I'm traveling at low speeds or going on a short trip."

Internet Driving School's Answer: More than 80 per cent of all accidents occur at speeds less than 40 mph. Fatalities involving non-belted occupants of cars have been recorded at as low as 12 mph. That's about the speed you'd be driving in a parking lot.

Three out of four accidents causing death occur within 25 miles of home. Belt up before driving to your shopping center - just as you would for a long trip.

Dangerous Reason Two: "When I have my lap belt fastened, I don't need to fasten my shoulder belt."

Internet Driving School's Answer: It's true that a lap belt will protect you from serious injury. But a shoulder belt provides important additional protection. During a crash, a shoulder belt keeps your head and chest from striking the steering wheel, dashboard, and windshield. A lap AND shoulder belt offers you the best possible protection in the event of a crash.

Dangerous Reason Three: "I might be saved if I'm thrown clear of the car in an accident."

Internet Driving School's Answer: The fact is that your chances of being killed are almost 25 times greater if you're thrown from the car. The forces in a collision can be great enough to fling you as much as 150 feet -- about 15 car lengths.

Safety belts can keep you from plunging through the windshield, being thrown out the door and hurtled through the air, scraping along the ground or being crushed by your own car. In almost any collision, you're better off being held inside the car by safety belts.

Dangerous Reason Four: "If I wear a safety belt, I might be trapped in a burning or submerged car!"

Internet Driving School's Answer: Less than one-half of 1 per cent of all injury-producing collisions involve fire or submersion. But if fire or submersion does occur, wearing a safety belt can save your life.

If you're involved in a crash without your safety belt, you might be stunned or knocked unconscious by striking



the interior of the car. Then your chances of getting out of a burning or submerged car would be far less.

You're better off wearing a safety belt at all times in a car. With safety belts, you're more likely to be unhurt, alert and capable of escaping quickly.

Dangerous Reason Five: "It takes too much time and trouble to fasten my safety belt."

Internet Driving School's Answer: It all depends on how complex your belt is, how well you know how to use your belt or how difficult it is to find the belt ends

"I'm uncomfortable and too confined when I wear a safety belt."

Internet Driving School's Answer: Belts are designed to allow you to reach necessary driving controls, and the newer shoulder belt retractors give you even more freedom. When reaching for things that will take you away from the steering wheel, it's safer to pull off the road or ask your passenger to help. Eventually, you may even feel MORE comfortable wearing safety belts.

So remember to wear your seat belts everytime you get into a car. The life you save may be yours.

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