

Car Safety



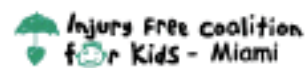
More than half of all child deaths and serious injuries could be prevented by placing children in car seats, booster seats and seat belts.

- Children ages 5–9, have the highest rate of car crash related injury compared to any other age group.
- Over 98% of child car seats are installed wrong.*

How to Ride Safely

Children birth to-18 months:

- Ride in a rear-facing car seat to give more support to the weak neck, head, and back.
- Try to buy an infant seat with a maximum weight of 30-35 pounds, so you can use it as long as possible as your child grows.
- Never place a child in front of an active frontal airbag! Frontal airbags deploy at up to 200 mph and can kill a child.



Data from Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance System, Deaths and Hospitalizations due to Motor Vehicle Crashes Children Aged 0-17 Years, Miami Dade County, 2000-2006

*Data based on Injury Free- Miami car seat checks

See other side for more safety tips

How to Ride Safely



Children 18 months and older:

- Ride in a forward-facing seat with a harness.
- Harness straps should fit snugly to hold a child's small body.

Children 40 - 100 pounds and under 4'9" (about 8-11 yrs):

- Ride in a booster seat.
- Booster seats place the seat belt on the hip bones (not the belly where organs are), and the shoulder strap across the chest (not the neck). This reduces the risk of internal injuries in a crash.
- Seat belts alone are made for adults, not children.

Children over 4'9" and adults:

- Always use a seat belt on every trip.
- Passengers without seat belts can injure or kill others in a crash.
- Airbags can cause injury or death when not used with seat belt.

RESOURCES FOR CAR SAFETY:

Injury Free - Miami:

(305) 243-3928 / www.jhsmiami.org/injuryfree

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

Vehicle Safety Hotline 1-888-DASH-2-DOT /1-888-327-4236

Produced by the Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance System (305) 243-5847

Each year car crashes kill more young lives than any other cause

