DON’T SKIP A STEP

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY: DO YOUR PART
■ Always buckle up.
■ Pay attention behind the wheel.
■ Car seats must be properly installed to prevent injuries.
■ Follow the car seat instruction manual for correct installation.
■ Follow the motor vehicle owner’s manual to determine the safest seating position for every occupant.

COMMON MISTAKES
■ Car seat is not secured tightly enough — should not shift more than one inch side to side or front to back.
■ Harness is not snug against the child.
■ Retainer clip is too high or too low — should be at the child’s armpit level.
■ Child is in the wrong seat or facing the wrong direction for the child’s height and weight.

AIRBAGS
■ Airbags are designed to work with seat belts to keep occupants in a safe position during a crash — airbags are not effective when the occupant is not belted.
■ It’s recommended to keep your child in the back seat until age 13 to avoid airbag injuries.

SEAT BELT SAFETY
■ In a crash, unbuckled occupants can slam into and injure other occupants — make sure everyone buckles up in every seating position, every time you drive.
■ Wear the lap belt low and snug across the hips and the shoulder strap across the chest. Never tuck the shoulder belt under the arm or behind the back — not only is this unsafe, it’s illegal.

PREGNANCY AND SEAT BELTS
■ Pregnant women should wear the lap belt snugly under the stomach, as low on the hips as possible and against the upper thighs.

BUCKLE UP AND OBEY THE LAW

MINNESOTA SEAT BELT LAW
Minnesota’s seat belt law says that drivers and passengers in all seating positions must buckle up or be in the correct child safety seat. A seat belt ticket can cost more than $100.

MINNESOTA CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW
When transporting a child who is under age 8 or shorter than 4 feet 9 inches, use a child restraint that is appropriate for the child’s height and weight.
DON’T SKIP A STEP: FOUR OUT OF FIVE CAR SEATS ARE USED INCORRECTLY

Find car seat installation videos, inspection locations and more at buckleupkids.dps.mn.gov

ALWAYS READ YOUR CAR SEAT AND VEHICLE OWNERS’ MANUALS FOR PROPER INSTALLATION