






Seat belts


 Seat belts are designed to bear upon the bony structure of the body and should be worn low across the front of the pelvis or the pelvis, chest and shoulders, as applicable; wearing the lap section of the belt across the abdominal area must be avoided.


 Seat belts should be adjusted as firmly as possible, consistent with comfort, to provide the protection for which they have been designed. A slack belt will greatly reduce the protection afforded to the wearer. Make sure that any belt positioning sliders are adjusted so as not to introduce slack.

 Belts should not be worn with straps twisted. Each belt assembly must only be used by one occupant; it is dangerous to put a belt around a child being carried on the occupant's lap.

 Riding with a reclined seatback increases your chance of serious or fatal injuries in the event of a collision or sudden stop. The protection of your restraint system (seat belts and air bags) is greatly reduced by reclining your seat. Seat belts must be snug against your hips and chest to work properly. The more the seatback is reclined, the greater the chance that an occupant's neck will strike the shoulder belt. Drivers and passengers should always sit well back in their seats, properly belted and with the seatbacks upright.

 The airbag Supplementary Restraint System (SRS) is designed to add to the overall effectiveness of the seat belts. It does not replace them. Seat belts must always be worn.


 Seat belts should be worn by all vehicle occupants, for every trip, no matter how short. Failure to do so will greatly increase the risk of death or serious injury in the event of an accident.

 Never wear just the lap belt or just the shoulder belt of a lap/shoulder diagonal seat belt. Both of these actions are extremely dangerous and may increase your risk of injury.


SEAT BELT SAFETY

Each seat in the vehicle will have a dedicated seat belt. Each seat belt is designed for an individual seat occupant, aged older than 12 years, or with a body mass greater than 36 kg (80 lb). Occupants with a lower age, or a lower body mass, should use an appropriate child restraint. See **35, CHILD SEAT POSITIONING**.

All the seat belts (except for the rear centre seat belt) are equipped with a Load limiter. This will help to regulate the over tension of a seat belt in a severe impact, to help reduce the possibility of injury to the occupant.

 A seat belt should be replaced if the webbing becomes frayed, contaminated or damaged.

 It is essential to replace the entire assembly after it has been worn in a severe impact even if damage to the assembly is not obvious.

 If any damage, wear, cuts, defects, or impaired operation are noted with the seat belts, the vehicle should be taken to a Dealer/Authorised Repairer for immediate attention. Do not use the vehicle if the seat belts cannot be operated correctly.