

Enhancing Road Safety in Minnesota

Primary Seat Belt Law • Booster Seat Law

Primary Seat Belt Law — Effective June 9, 2009

Minnesota's seat belt law is a primary offense, meaning drivers and passengers in all seating positions must be buckled up or in the correct child restraint.

Law enforcement can stop motorists directly for seat belt violations. A seat belt ticket is \$25 to more than \$100.

Booster Seat Law — Effective July 1, 2009

Under Minnesota's new booster seat law, a child cannot use a seat belt alone until they are age 8 or reach 4 feet 9 inches tall — whichever comes first. It is recommended to keep a child in a booster based on their height, rather than their age.

Boosters are seat lifts that help raise a child up so a seat belt fits properly.

Kids that are shorter than 4 feet 9 inches aren't ready to use a seat belt alone. Poor belt fit can contribute to death or serious injury. A sign a belt does not fit properly is if it rubs against a child's neck, or the child tucks the belt behind their back.

