USING THE SEAT BELTS



1. **Putting on a seat belt**: Draw the belt out smoothly, making sure that the seat position and your position on the seat are correct.
   When correctly positioned, the seat belt should cross the collar bone at the mid-point between the neck and the end of your shoulder.
   Where possible, rear seat passengers should adjust their seating position to achieve the same seat belt position.
2. **Fastening a seat belt**: With the seat belt correctly positioned, place the metal tongue into the buckle nearest to you. Press it in until a click is heard. To release the seat belt, press the red button.

   Note: *When releasing the seat belt, it is advisable to hold the belt before pressing the release button. This will prevent the belt from retracting too quickly.*
3. **Seat belt use during pregnancy**: Position the lap strap comfortably across the hips, beneath the abdomen. Place the diagonal part of the seat belt between the breasts and to the side of the abdomen.

⚠ **Position the seat belt correctly for the safety of the mother and unborn child. Never wear just the lap strap, and never sit on the lap strap while using just the shoulder strap. Both of these actions are extremely dangerous, and may increase your risk of serious injury in the event of an accident or during emergency braking.**

⚠ **Never place anything between you and the seat belt in an attempt to cushion the impact in the event of an accident. It can be dangerous, and will reduce the effectiveness of the seat belt in preventing injury.**

⚠ **Do not use comfort clips or other devices that would create slack in the seat belt system.**

⚠ **No modifications or additions should be made by the user which will either prevent the seat belt adjusting devices from operating to remove slack, or prevent the seat belt assembly from being adjusted to remove slack. A slack seat belt offers a greatly reduced level of occupant protection in an impact.**

- 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 the 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 airbags) 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 hips will slide under the lap belt or the 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.

THIRD ROW SEAT BELTS

⚠ **To make sure the third row seat belts are used correctly, refer to the front and rear seat belt warnings, shown earlier in this section of the Owner's handbook.**

When not in use, always stow the metal tongue in the storage slot provided in the loadspace.

SEAT BELT PRE-TENSIONERS

The seat belt pre-tensioners activate in conjunction with the Supplementary Restraint System (SRS) to provide additional protection in the event of a severe frontal impact. They automatically reduce any slack in a seat belt to reduce forward movement of a front seat occupant or a third row seat occupant.

⚠ **The seat belt pre-tensioners will activate only once and then must be replaced. Failure to replace them will reduce the effectiveness of the SRS in reducing the risk of serious injury or death in the event of an accident.**

⚠ **After any impact, have the seat belts and pre-tensioners checked and, if necessary, renewed by a Retailer/Authorised Repairer.**

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. Occupants with a lower age, or a lower body mass, should use an appropriate child restraint. See **42, 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.

⚠ **The 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 Retailer/Authorised Repairer for immediate attention. Do not use the vehicle if the seat belts cannot be operated correctly.**

⚠ **Seat belts should be inspected or replaced by qualified personnel only. All replacement parts should be, at least, the same specification as the vehicle's original equipment. If in doubt, consult a Retailer/Authorised Repairer.**

⚠ **Do not attempt to service, repair, replace, modify, or tamper with, any part of the vehicle's seat belts; doing so may render the seat belts as ineffective.**

Care must be taken to avoid contamination of the webbing with polishes, oils and chemicals, and particularly battery acid. Cleaning may safely be carried out using mild soap and water. Contaminated seat belts may not operate correctly in an impact and cannot be relied upon.

When using seat belts to restrain items other than occupants, make sure the belts are not damaged, or exposed to sharp edges.

Do not carry hard, fragile, or sharp items between your person and the seat belt. In an impact, the pressure on such items can cause them to break, which in turn may cause death or serious injury.

SEAT BELT CHECKS

Note: *If the vehicle is parked on an incline, the seat belt mechanism may lock. This is a safety feature and the belt should be gently eased out from the upper anchorage.*

The seat belts should be inspected regularly to check for fraying, cuts, wear to the webbing and the condition and security of the mechanism, buckles, adjusters and mounting points.

- With the seat belt fastened, give the webbing near the buckle a quick upward pull. The buckle must remain securely locked.
- With the seat belt unfastened, unreel the seat belt to the limit of its travel. Check that it unreels smoothly with no snatches or snags. Allow the belt to fully retract, again checking for smooth operation.
- Partially unreel the seat belt, then hold the tongue plate and give a quick forward pull. The mechanism must lock and prevent any further unreeling.

If any of the seat belts fail to meet those criteria, immediately contact your Retailer/Authorised Repairer.

SEAT BELT REMINDER

Seat belt reminder commences when the vehicle is in motion and the driver's seat belt is unbuckled. Dependent on the market, an audible chime sounds and the warning indicator in the Instrument panel illuminates. See **61, SEAT BELT (RED)**. The visual and audible warnings applicable to the Seat belt reminder feature are market dependent, to meet individual market requirements. The warning signals given may also change, depending on whether the vehicle is stationary or when the vehicle's speed exceeds a predetermined threshold. In certain markets, the Seat belt reminder feature also applies to the front passenger seat.

A graphic displayed in the Message centre indicates which seat belts are fastened at the start of a journey, and also when a seat belt is fastened or unfastened during a journey.



Each seating position is represented by a passenger icon, the colour and symbol of which indicates the seat belt status:

- Tick/green - seat belt, in the indicated position, is fastened.
- Cross/red - seat belt, in the indicated position, has been unfastened while the vehicle's ignition is on. This indicator will turn grey after 30 seconds.
- Grey - seat belt not fastened.

Note: *The indicators will be displayed for 30 seconds each time there is a status change, e.g., a seat belt is unfastened or fastened, or a door is opened and then closed.*

In addition, an audible warning will sound under the following conditions:

- The seat belt of an occupied front seat is not fastened, or is unfastened during a journey.
- A rear seat belt is unfastened.

Note: *If a heavy object is placed on the front passenger seat, it may activate the Seat belt reminder feature. It is recommended that any objects placed on the front passenger seat are secured using the seat belt.*