

# BUCKLE UP

## What exactly is Click It or Ticket Virginia?

Click It or Ticket is a national program that combines aggressive law enforcement and public information media to increase seat belt use rates across the country-including Virginia. Each year, nearly 50% of motor vehicle fatalities are unrestrained. By increasing the use of seat belts, the rate of serious injury and death will go down and more lives will be “saved by the belt”.

## Adult Seat Belt Laws

Anyone in the front seat of a motor vehicle must wear the appropriate safety belt system at all times while the vehicle is in motion on any public roadway. A \$25 civil penalty will be imposed for non-compliance.

## Child Passenger Safety Laws

Drivers of motor vehicles manufactured after January 1, 1968, must have children age 16 and under properly secured in an appropriate safety restraint system (safety seat, booster seat or seat belt) that meets U.S. DOT standards. This requirement applies to any car, any driver and all seating positions. Child restraint devices are required for children up to the age of eight, unless a medical exemption is provided. Rear-facing child restraint devices shall be placed in the back seat of a vehicle. In the event the vehicle does not have a back seat, the child restraint device may be placed in the front passenger seat, only if the vehicle is either not equipped with a passenger side airbag or the passenger side airbag has been deactivated. A \$50 civil penalty will be imposed for non-compliance.

# TOP 10 REASONS TO BUCKLE UP

1

Seat belts prevent ejection from the vehicle. A person is four times more likely to die from being ejected than if seat belted in the car.

2

Seat belts save lives. When worn correctly, seat belts have proven to reduce the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passenger occupants by 45%, and by 60% in pickup trucks, SUV's and mini-vans.

3

Seat belts reduce injury severity. When worn correctly, seat belts reduce the risk of moderate-to-critical injury by 50 percent.

4

Airbags are designed to work in conjunction with a seat belt, not in place of them.

5

Three out of four fatal crashes occur within 25 miles of victims' homes. A quick trip down the road does NOT excuse safety belt use.

6

Most crashes causing death or injury occur at speeds below 40 miles per hour.

7

Studies show that men - particularly between the ages of 16-34 are less likely to buckle up, particularly at night. Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of this age group. Buckle Up!

8

You love your kids. Despite some of the most advanced laws in the nation, children are still being killed in Virginia as a result of not being restrained properly in their safety seat, booster seat or seat belt. For more information on tips pertaining to children visit [www.dmvnow.com/highwaysafety](http://www.dmvnow.com/highwaysafety).

9

You want everyone to be safe. During a crash, unrestrained occupants become missiles within the occupant compartment of the vehicle. Large children and adults can cause severe injury to other occupants, especially small children and infants.

10

It's the law.

