

Injury Prevention

Air Bags

Air bags are an important safety device used to save lives. Air bags prevent head and chest injuries by keeping your head, neck and chest from slamming into the dash, steering wheel or windshield in a frontal collision.

While air bags save many lives, air bags deploy at 300 km/h and can harm those sitting too close. Here are some tips to prevent this from happening:

Drivers seat should be reclined if necessary and at least 25 centimeters from steering wheel.

Drivers seat and front passengers seat should be moved as far back as possible.

Due to the fact that air bags can kill or injure infants in the front seat, children under 12 should sit in the back seat.

Adults with small statures may also be injured by air bags. In some cases on/off switches can be installed to protect smaller adults from air bags.

Keep your hands on both sides of the steering wheel when driving. If an air bag deploys and your hand is at the top of the wheel, you may break your wrist or injure your face.

Overall, air bags prevent more deaths and injuries than they cause. Air bags are supplemental safety devices. Vehicle occupants should always wear both lap and shoulder belts.

