

INCREASING SAFETY BELT USE IN YOUR COMPANY

KNOWLEDGE TESTS

The two knowledge tests on the following pages gauge drivers' knowledge about safety belts and safe driving.

KNOWLEDGE TEST 1

How much do you really know about safety belts and your truck?

The following test gauges your knowledge about safety belts and safe driving.

1. In a crash, being thrown from a vehicle:
 - a. Increases the chance of death or serious injury
 - b. Decreases the chance of death or serious injury
 - c. Has no effect on the chance of death or serious injury

2. If a vehicle is in a crash and becomes submerged in water, a driver's chances of escaping from the vehicle are:
 - a. Increased by wearing a safety belt
 - b. Decreased by wearing a safety belt
 - c. Not affected by wearing a safety belt

3. Safety belts prevent injury:
 - a. Most often on long trips
 - b. Most often on short trips
 - c. On all trips

4. Safety belts prevent injury:
 - a. Most often in bad weather
 - b. Most often in good weather
 - c. In all weather conditions

5. A driver's ability to control the vehicle in an emergency is:
 - a. Hampered by safety belts
 - b. Improved by safety belts
 - c. Unaffected by safety belts

6. Most fatal crashes happen:
 - a. Close to home
 - b. On long trips
 - c. On expressways

7. Safety belts can reduce the chances of a severe or crippling injury among occupants of large trucks by about:
- a. 20 percent
 - b. 50 percent
 - c. 80 percent
8. In a frontal collision occurring at 30 mph, an unbelted person continues to move forward causing him/her to hit frontal interior components (such as the steering wheel, instrument panel, or windshield) at about 30 mph. This is the same velocity a person falling from the top of a _____ upon impact with the ground:
- a. Thirty-story building
 - b. Three-story building
 - c. One-story building
9. If a passenger fails to wear a safety belt, the driver's chances of being injured are:
- a. Increased
 - b. Decreased
 - c. Not affected

Answers: 1.a, 2.a, 3.c, 4.c, 5.b, 6.a, 7.b, 8.b, 9.a

KNOWLEDGE TEST 2

How much do you really know about safety belts and your truck?

(TRUE OR FALSE)

1. Good drivers know how to avoid crashes. Only poor drivers need to wear safety belts. (T/F)
2. If the vehicle catches on fire or submerges, the safety belts will trap the occupants inside. (T/F)
3. Wearing the safety belt is not necessary for short trips in the neighborhood or on local pickup and delivery trips. (T/F)
4. If you are thrown from the vehicle, your chances of injury will be lower than if you had been wearing your safety belt. (T/F)
5. Safety belts will not protect the driver against injury in the case of a side impact. (T/F)
6. Although studies have shown that safety belts reduce the chances of injury or death in automobiles, they do not apply to large trucks. (T/F)
7. Forty-nine states (as of January 2006), the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have laws requiring safety belt use. (T/F)

Answers on next page.

Knowledge Test 2 Answers

1. FALSE. Even expert and alert drivers have no control over other drivers on the road. Truck driving is third only to farming and mining in the number of fatalities per 100,000 workers.
2. FALSE. Fire or submersion occurs in less than five percent of heavy-duty truck crashes. If you are belted and unhurt, you are more likely to remain conscious and alert. Therefore, you are more likely to be able to escape from the vehicle. If you are not wearing the safety belt, you are more likely to become unconscious or hurt by striking other parts of the vehicle's interior.
3. FALSE. Three out of four crashes happen within 25 miles of home, and 80 percent of injuries and deaths occur in vehicles traveling 40 mph or less.
4. FALSE. If you are thrown from a vehicle in a crash, the chances of death or serious injury are four times greater than if you remain belted inside. If you are thrown from the vehicle, you may land on hard or sharp objects, be struck by your own vehicle, or struck by another vehicle.
5. FALSE. Side impacts can cause truck occupants to be thrown into each other or into hard interior surfaces of the cab. In addition, safety belts keep the driver in place so that control of the vehicle can be maintained, thereby providing the driver with the opportunity of avoiding a second or third collision.
6. FALSE. According to 2004 Fatal Analysis Reporting System statistics, almost half of drivers of large trucks killed in crashes were not wearing their safety belts.
7. TRUE. Because most of these laws have been enacted during the past several years, many drivers are not yet aware of how committed the States are on the subject. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations also require that safety belts be used.