SEAT BELTS

Seat belt precautions

Lexus recommends that the driver and passengers in the vehicle be properly restrained at all times with the seat belts provided. Failure to do so could increase the chance of injury and/or the severity of injury in accidents.

**Baby or small child.** Use a child restraint system which fits your vehicle. See “Child restraint” for details.

**Child.** If a child is too large for a child restraint system, the child should sit in the rear seat and must be restrained using the vehicle’s seat belt. According to accident statistics, the child is safer when properly restrained in the rear seat than in the front seat. Do not allow the child to stand up or kneel on either rear or front seats. If the shoulder belt falls across the child’s neck or face, move the child to the center position and use the center lap belt.

**Pregnant woman.** Lexus recommends the use of a seat belt. Ask your doctor for specific recommendations. The lap belt should be worn securely and as low as possible over the hips and not on the waist.

**Injured person.** Lexus recommends the use of a seat belt. Depending on the injury, however, first check with your doctor for specific recommendations.

---

**CAUTION**

 Persons should ride in their seats properly wearing their seat belts whenever the vehicle is moving. Otherwise, they are much more likely to suffer serious bodily injury in the event of sudden braking or a collision.

When using the seat belts, observe the following:

- Use the belt for only one person at a time. Do not use a single belt for two or more people – even children.
- Avoid reclining the seatbacks too much. The seat belts provide maximum protection when the seatbacks are in the upright position. (See “Adjusting seatback angle.”)
- Be careful not to damage the belt webbing or hardware. Take care that they do not get caught or pinched in the seat or doors.
- Inspect the belt system periodically. Check for cuts, fraying, and loose parts. Damaged parts should be replaced. Do not disassemble or modify the system.
- Keep the belts clean and dry. If they need cleaning, use a mild soap solution or lukewarm water. Never use bleach, dye, or abrasive cleaners – they may severely weaken the belts.
- Replace the belt assembly (including bolts) if it has been used in a severe impact. The entire assembly should be replaced even if damage is not obvious.
Front seat belts

Adjust the seat as needed and sit up straight and well back in the seat. To fasten your belt, pull it out of the retractor and insert the tab into the buckle. You will hear a click when the tab locks into the buckle. The seat belt length automatically adjusts to your size and the seat position. The retractor will lock the belt during a sudden stop or on impact. It may also lock if you lean forward too quickly. A slow, easy motion will allow the belt to extend, and you can move around freely. When a passenger’s shoulder belt is completely extended and is then retracted even slightly, the belt is locked in that position and cannot be extended. This feature is used to hold the child restraint system securely. (For details, see “Child restraint” on page 66.) To free the belt again, fully retract the belt and then pull the belt out once more.

If the seat belt cannot be pulled out of the retractor, firmly pull the belt and release it. You will then be able to smoothly pull the belt out of the retractor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the belt is not twisted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adjust the position of the lap and shoulder belts. Position the lap belt as low as possible on your hips – not on your waist, then adjust it to a snug fit by pulling the shoulder portion upward through the latch plate.
COMFORT ADJUSTMENT

CAUTION

- High-positioned lap belts and loose-fitting belts both could increase the chance of injury due to sliding under the lap belt during an accident. Keep the lap belt as low on your hip bone as possible.
- For your safety, do not place the shoulder belt under your arm.

Adjust the shoulder anchor position to your size.
To raise the anchor position, push the anchor up. To lower the anchor position, support the anchor while you push the lock release button then slide the anchor down. After adjustment, make sure the anchor is locked in position.

CAUTION

Always be sure that the belt is positioned across the center of your shoulder. The belt should be kept away from your neck, but not falling off your shoulder. Failure to do so could reduce the amount of protection in an accident and increase the chance of injury.

To release the belt, press the buckle release button and allow the belt to retract.
If the belt does not retract smoothly, pull it out and check for kinks or twists. Then make sure it remains untwisted as it retracts.
Rear outside seat belts

Sit up straight and well back in the seat. To fasten your belt, pull it out of the retractor and insert the tab into the buckle.

You will hear a click when the tab locks into the buckle. The seat belt length automatically adjusts to your size. The retractor will lock the belt during a sudden stop or on impact. It also may lock if you lean forward too quickly. A slow, easy motion will allow the belt to extend, and you can move around freely. When a shoulder belt is completely extended and is then retracted even slightly, the belt is locked in that position and cannot be extended. This feature is used to hold the child restraint system securely. (For details, see “Child restraint” on page 66.)

To free the belt again, fully retract the belt and then pull the belt out once more.

If the seat belt cannot be pulled out of the retractor, firmly pull the belt and release it. You will then be able to smoothly pull the belt out of the retractor.

CAUTION

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the belt is not twisted.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.

Adjust the position of the lap and shoulder belts.

Position the lap belt as low as possible on your hips – not on your waist, then adjust it to a snug fit by pulling the shoulder portion upward through the latch plate.
COMFORT ADJUSTMENT

**CAUTION**

- High–positioned lap belts and loose–fitting belts both could increase the chance of injury due to sliding under the lap belt during an accident. Keep the lap belt as low on your hip bone as possible.
- For your safety, do not place the shoulder belt under your arm.

To release the belt, press the buckle release button and allow the belt to retract.
If the belt does not retract smoothly, pull it out and check for kinks or twists. Then make sure it remains untwisted as it retracts.

---

**Rear center seat belt**

Sit up straight and well back in the seat. To fasten your belt, insert the tab into the buckle.
You will hear a click when the tab locks into the buckle.
If the belt is not long enough for you, hold the tab at a right angle to the belt and pull on the tab.

**CAUTION**

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the belt is not twisted.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.
Remove excess length of the belt and adjust the belt position.
To shorten the belt, pull the free end of the belt. Position the lap belt as low as possible on your hips — not on your waist, then adjust it to a snug fit.

**CAUTION**

High–positioned and loose–fitting lap belts could increase the chance of injury due to sliding under the lap belt during an accident. Keep the lap belt as low on your hip bone as possible.

To release the belt, press the buckle release button.

**Seat belt extender**
If your seat belt cannot be fastened securely because it is not long enough, a personalized seat belt extender is available from your Lexus dealer free of charge.
Please contact your local Lexus dealer so that the dealer can order the proper required length for the extender. Bring the heaviest coat you expect to wear for proper measurement and selection of length. Additional ordering information is available at your Lexus dealer.

**CAUTION**

When using the seat belt extender, observe the following. Failure to follow these instructions could result in less effectiveness of the seat belt restraint system in case of vehicle accident, increasing the chance of personal injury.

- Never use the seat belt extender if you can fasten the seat belt without it.
• Remember that the extender provided for you may not be safe when used on a different vehicle, or for another person or at a different seating position than the one originally intended for.

• Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
• If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.

SRS AIRBAGS

The SRS (Supplemental Restraint System) airbags are designed to provide further protection to the driver and front passenger when added to the primary protection provided by the seat belts.

In response to a severe frontal impact, the SRS airbags work together with the seat belts to prevent or reduce injury by inflating, in order to decrease the likelihood of the driver’s or front passenger’s head or face directly hitting the steering wheel or dashboard. The passenger airbag is activated even with no passenger in the front seat.

To connect the extender to the seat belt, insert the tab into the seat belt buckle so that the “PRESS” signs on the buckle release buttons of the extender and the seat belt are both facing outward as shown.
You will hear a click when the tab locks into the buckle.
When releasing the seat belt, press on the buckle release button on the extender, not on the seat belt. This helps prevent damage to the vehicle interior and extender itself.
When not in use, remove the extender and store in the vehicle for future use.

CAUTION

• After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the belt is not twisted.
This indicator comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ACC” or “ON” position. It goes off after about 6 seconds. This means the SRS airbags are operating properly.

The SRS airbag warning light system monitors the front airbag sensors, center airbag sensor assembly, inflators, warning light, interconnecting wiring and power sources.

The SRS airbag system is designed to activate in response to a severe frontal impact within the shaded area between the arrows in the illustration.

The SRS airbags will deploy if the severity of the impact is above the designed threshold level, comparable to an approximate 20 km/h (14 mph) collision when impacting straight into a fixed barrier that does not move or deform.

If the severity of the impact is below the above threshold level, the SRS airbags may not deploy.

However, this threshold velocity will be considerably higher if the vehicle strikes an object, such as a parked vehicle or sign pole, which can move or deform on impact, or if it is involved in an underride collision (a collision in which the nose of the vehicle “underrides,” or goes under, the bed of a truck).

It is possible with collision severity at the marginal level of airbag sensor detection and activation that only one of your vehicle’s two airbags will deploy.
For your safety, be sure to always wear your seat belts.

The SRS airbags are not designed to inflate if the vehicle is subjected to a side or rear impact, if it rolls over, or if it is involved in a low-speed frontal collision.

In a severe frontal impact, sensors detect deceleration and the system triggers the airbag inflators. Then a chemical reaction in the inflators momentarily fills the airbags with non-toxic nitrogen gas to help restrain the forward motion of the occupants.

When the airbags inflate, they produce a fairly loud noise and release some smoke along with nitrogen gas. This is not harmful and does not indicate a fire. Be sure to wash off any residue as soon as possible to prevent minor skin irritation.

Deployment of the airbags happens in a fraction of a second, so the airbags must inflate with considerable force. While the system is designed to reduce serious injuries, it may also cause minor burns or abrasions and swellings.

Parts of the airbag module (steering wheel hub, dashboard) may be hot for several minutes, but the airbags themselves will not be hot. The airbags are designed to operate only once.

A crash severe enough to inflate the airbags may break the windshield as the vehicle buckles. In vehicles with a passenger airbag the windshield may also be damaged by absorbing some of the force of the inflating airbag.

The center airbag sensor assembly consists of a safing sensor and center airbag sensor.
The SRS airbag system is designed only as a supplement to the primary protection of the seat belt systems of the driver and front passenger. The front seat occupants are particularly susceptible to injury if they do not wear their seat belts; when sudden braking or a collision occurs, they may be thrown forward. To obtain further protection in an accident, the driver and all passengers in the vehicle should always wear their seat belts when driving. For instructions and precautions concerning the seat belt system, see “Seat belts” on page 54.

A baby or small child who is too small to use a seat belt should be properly secured in a rear seat using a child restraint system.

Do not use a rear–facing child restraint system in the front seat because the force of the rapid inflation of the passenger airbag may cause severe injury to the child. Vehicles with a passenger airbag display a caution label on the passenger side instrument panel as shown above to remind you not to install a rear–facing child restraint system on the front seat.

When using a forward–facing child restraint system in the front seat, the seat must be moved as far back as possible. For instructions concerning the installation of a child restraint system, see “Child restraint” on page 66.
Do not sit on the edge of the seat or lean over the dashboard when the vehicle is in use. The airbags inflate with considerable speed and force; you may be severely injured. Sit up straight and well back in the seat, and always use your seat belt.

Do not allow a child to stand up, or to kneel on the front passenger seat. The airbag inflates with considerable speed and force; the child may be severely injured.

Do not hold a child on your lap or in your arms. Use a child restraint system in the rear seat. For instructions concerning the installation of a child restraint system, see “Child restraint” on page 66.

Do not put objects on or in front of the dashboard or steering wheel pad that houses the airbag system. They might restrict inflation or cause personal injury as they are projected rearward.

Do not modify, remove or open any component or wiring, such as the steering wheel, column cover, front passenger airbag cover, front passenger airbag, center airbag sensor assembly or front airbag sensors. Doing any of these may cause sudden SRS airbag inflation or disable the system, which could result in personal injury.

Failure to follow these instructions can result in severe injuries.
NOTICE

Do not perform any of the following changes without consulting your Lexus dealer. Such changes can interfere with proper operation of the SRS airbag system in some cases.

- Installation of electronic items such as a mobile two-way radio, cassette tape player or compact disc player.
- Modification of the suspension system.
- Modification of the front end structure.
- Attachment of a grille guard (bull bar, kangaroo bar, etc.), snow plow, winches or any other equipment to the front end.
- Repairs made on or near the front fenders, console, steering column, steering wheel or dashboard near the front passenger airbag.

This SRS airbag system has a service reminder indicator to inform the driver of operating problems. If either of the following conditions occurs, this indicates a malfunction of the airbags. Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

- The light does not come on when the ignition key is turned to the “ACC” or “ON” position, or remains on.
- The light comes on while driving.
In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible:

• The SRS airbags have been inflated.
• The front part of the vehicle (shaded in the illustration) was involved in an accident not of the extent to cause the SRS airbags to inflate.

• The pad section of the steering wheel or front passenger airbag cover (shaded in the illustration) is scratched, cracked, or otherwise damaged.

CHILD RESTRAINT

Child restraint precautions

Lexus strongly urges the use of child restraint system for children small enough to use it.

The laws of all fifty states in the U.S.A. and Canada now require the use of a child restraint system.

CAUTION

For effective protection in automobile accidents and sudden stops, children must be properly restrained. Holding a child in your arms is not a substitute for a child restraint system. In an accident, the child can be crushed against the windshield, or between you and the vehicle’s interior if you are unrestrained.
Child restraint system
A child restraint system for a small child or baby must itself be properly restrained on the seat with either the lap belt or the lap portion of the lap/shoulder belt.
The child restraint system should conform to the size of the child and properly fit the vehicle seat. For greater safety, the child restraint system should be installed on the rear seat. According to accident statistics, children are safer when properly restrained in the rear seat than in the front seat.
When installing a child restraint system, refer to the instructions provided by its manufacturer and follow the directions under the following illustrations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After installing a child restraint system, make sure it is secured in place. If it is not restrained securely, it may cause injury to the child in the event of a sudden stop or accident.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When not using the child restraint system, keep it secured with the seat belt or place it in the trunk or somewhere other than in the passenger compartment. This will prevent it injuring passengers in the event of a sudden stop or accident.

Top strap anchors and locations
Your vehicle has anchors for securing the strap of a child restraint system. The anchor nuts are welded beneath the sheet metal to permit installation of an anchor bracket for a child restraint system.
To install an anchor bracket, use an 8 mm X 30 mm X 1.25 mm coarse thread metric bolt and a 15 mm (0.6 in.) spacer for the outer anchors or a 10 mm (0.4 in.) spacer for the center anchor. Note that the bolts accompanying many child restraint systems are not metric. You can damage the anchor nuts on your vehicle if you force bolts with different thread into the anchor nuts.
If your child restraint system does not provide any of the necessary parts, you can purchase the following items from your Lexus dealer.
1. Run your fingers across the trim of the filler panel to locate the holes underneath it in the positions shown above.
2. Make a hole in the covering directly above the hole in the filler panel.

3. Insert a 15 mm (0.6 in.) spacer for either outside anchor or a 10 mm (0.4 in.) spacer for the center anchor, and tighten down the anchor bracket for your child restraint system with a bolt. Torque the bolt to 16.5 – 24.7 N·m (1.68 – 2.52 kgf·m, 12.2 – 18.2 ft·lbf).

To comply with the Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, vehicles sold in Canada are provided with a bracket set in the glovebox, designed for use with any of three anchor locations shown in the illustration. If you want to install the bracket set on either outer anchor, replace the spacer (Part No. 90560–08064) with one that is 15 mm (0.6 in.) thick. This can be purchased from your Lexus dealer.
When installing a rear–facing child restraint system, follow the same procedure as when installing a forward–facing child restraint system.

1. Fasten the center lap belt over the child restraint system following the instructions provided by its manufacturer.

2. Make sure the belt is tight by pulling its free end while you firmly push down the child restraint system.

CAUTION

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.
3. If your child restraint system requires the use of a top strap, latch the hook onto the anchor bracket and tighten the top strap.

4. To remove the child restraint system, press the buckle–release button and unhook the top strap.

**INSTALLATION ON OUTER REAR SEAT**

When installing a rear–facing child restraint system, follow the same procedure as when installing a forward–facing child restraint system.

---

**CAUTION**

Push and pull the child restraint system in different directions to make sure it is secure.
1. Fasten the lap and shoulder belt over the child restraint system following the instructions provided by its manufacturer. Keep the lap portion of the belt tight.

![Image of seat belt being fastened]

**CAUTION**

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.

2. Fully extend the shoulder belt to put it in the lock mode.

![Image of shoulder belt being extended]

3. Place the shoulder belt between the vehicle seatback and the child restraint system and allow it to retract. To hold the child restraint system securely, let the shoulder belt retract as far as it will go while firmly pushing down the child restraint system.
4. If your child restraint system requires the use of a top strap, latch the hook onto the anchor bracket and tighten the top strap.

**CAUTION**

Make sure the seat belt is securely locked. Also make sure the child restraint is secure by pushing and pulling it in different directions.

5. To remove the child restraint system, press the buckle–release button and allow the belt to retract. Unhook the top strap.

**INSTALLATION ON FRONT SEAT**
Do not use a rear–facing child restraint system in the front seat because the force of the rapid inflation of the passenger airbag may cause severe injury to the child. Vehicles with a passenger airbag display a caution label on the passenger side instrument panel as shown above to remind you not to install a rear–facing child restraint system on the front seat.

When using a forward–facing child restraint system, move the seat as far back as possible.

1. Fasten the lap and shoulder belt over the child restraint system following the instructions provided by its manufacturer. Keep the lap portion of the belt tight.

2. Fully extend the shoulder belt to put it in the lock mode.

CAUTION

Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.

If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer.
3. Place the shoulder belt between the vehicle seatback and child restraint system and allow it to retract. To hold the child restraint system securely, let the shoulder belt retract as far as it will go while firmly pushing down the child restraint system.

**CAUTION**

Make sure the seat belt is securely locked. Also make sure the child restraint is secure by pushing and pulling it in different directions.

4. If your child restraint system requires the use of a top strap, latch the hook onto the tab of the rear center seat belt and tighten the top strap.

5. To remove the child restraint system, press the buckle–release button and allow the belt to retract. Unhook the top strap.