

A Question of Physics

Imagine jumping off the top of an eight-floor building to the ground below without a safety line. You can achieve the same result in a car crash or sudden stop at 80km/hr if you are not wearing a seatbelt.

In a crash or sudden stop, the vehicle's energy is transferred to your body and you will rocket forward at the speed the car was travelling!

If you want to visualise what happens to unbelted occupants in a car crash even at low speed, conduct this experiment:-

- Place 3 freshly laid eggs loose inside a wooden box and shake.
- Now open and have a look inside!

Cars are just boxes on wheels and in a collision, without a seatbelt, you and everyone else in the car are just as fragile and easily broken as those eggs! When you get into a car, don't wait to be told. Fasten your seatbelt. An egg doesn't have brains, but you do!

Without a seatbelt, you are likely to collide face-first with the sharp interior of the car, the windscreen or even the road outside with a force equal to **30 times** your body weight i.e. equivalent to that of a baby elephant.



Think you can save yourself? Think again. From the initial impact to crashing face-first through the windscreen takes only seven tenths of a second!

You may have 101 reasons not to wear a seatbelt - each one of them is a killer