

## No Seatbelt No Excuse!

- Safety belts are proven lifesavers and should be used on every single car journey.
- Without a safety belt, 3 out of 4 people will be killed or seriously injured in a 50 km/h (31mph) head-on collision.
- Every person in a car is legally required to wear a safety belt where one is fitted.
- The driver is responsible for ensuring that passengers under 17 years of age use a safety belt or a suitable child car seat.

Remember: no safety belt - up to 4 penalty points.

## Child Safety in Cars

All children should be restrained in the correct child seat when travelling in a car.



Select a child seat that:

- Conforms to United Nations standard, ECE Regulations 44-03 or 44-04 (look for the E mark).
- Is suitable for the child's WEIGHT and HEIGHT. Do not use age as a guide.
- Is suitable for the type of car.
- Is correctly fitted according to the manufacturer's instructions.

It is safer to fit child seats in the rear of the car. NEVER fit a rearward facing baby seat in the front.

For further information on Child Safety in Cars please see [www.rsa.ie/childsafetyincars](http://www.rsa.ie/childsafetyincars)

RSA

### Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre

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An Garda Síochána

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## Working To Save Lives

# Road Safety & The Law in Ireland



An Garda Síochána

RSA



## Introduction

Before driving any car on a road you must ensure that:

- You hold a current driving licence.
- The car is taxed and the tax disc is displayed.
- The car is insured and the insurance disc is displayed.
- If applicable display a valid NCT disc.

Failure to observe any of these requirements is a serious offence.

**ALL TRAFFIC DRIVES ON THE LEFT IN IRELAND!**

## National Car Test (NCT)



- Passenger cars are required to undergo a roadworthiness test when they are 4 years old and every two years after that until their 10th anniversary when they become subject to an annual test.
- For further information please visit [www.ncts.ie](http://www.ncts.ie) or call the NCTS directly on 1890 412 413

## Penalty Points

Any driver accumulating 12 penalty points at any time inside a three year period will be automatically disqualified from driving for six months. Penalty points remain on the licence record for a period of three years.

- No insurance: 5 penalty points and a fine of up to €2,500 and/or a possible term of imprisonment and/or disqualification for one year or more.
- Careless Driving: 5 penalty points and a fine of up to €1,500 and/or a possible term of imprisonment
- Speeding: 4 penalty points on conviction in court and a fine of up to €800.
- No safety belt: 4 penalty points on conviction in court and a fine of up to €800 for a first offence.

For further information on penalty points please see [www.penaltypoints.ie](http://www.penaltypoints.ie)

## Speed Limits

Speed limits in the Republic of Ireland are measured in kilometres (km/h). Safety cameras are in use on Irish roads. Locations of cameras are available on [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)

Check the signs - Check your speed.

SPEED SIGN CONVERTER			
New km/h Limit	Approximate Equivalent	New km/h Limit	Approximate Equivalent
30 km/h	EQUIVALENT TO... 19 mph	80 km/h	EQUIVALENT TO... 50 mph
50 km/h	EQUIVALENT TO... 31 mph	100 km/h	EQUIVALENT TO... 62 mph
60 km/h	EQUIVALENT TO... 37 mph	120 km/h	EQUIVALENT TO... 75 mph

The maximum speed limit for vehicles such as buses, trucks or towing vehicles is 80km/h (50mph).

## Slow Down

- Driving too fast is a factor in 1 out of every 4 fatal crashes in Ireland.
- Speeding reduces a driver's ability to steer safely around bends and increases the distance necessary to stop a car.
- A 100 km/h (62 mph) crash is the same as dropping a car from an eleven storey building.
- Slowing down saves lives.



## Never Ever Drink And Drive

Many drivers believe they are safe to drive after one drink, they are wrong. The RSA says "NEVER EVER DRINK AND DRIVE"

## How alcohol affects driving:

Alcohol affects judgement, vision, co-ordination and reaction time. It causes serious driving errors, such as:

- Driving too fast or too slow.
- Driving in the wrong lane.
- Running over the kerb.
- Not signalling, failure to use lights.
- Straddling lanes.
- Running stop signs and red lights.
- Improper overtaking.



## Alcohol & Drugs - The Law:

It is an offence to drive, attempt to drive or be in charge of a car if you don't have proper control due to alcohol and/or drugs.



## The Penalty:

The penalty for drink/drug driving is disqualification from holding a driving licence for a minimum period ranging from 3 months to 6 years and a fine of up to €5,000 and/or imprisonment.