

Dog Travel Safety Restraints Overview

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Hotels, resorts, and airlines have adopted pet-friendly policies that have made it much easier for you to travel with pets. Your travels, however, usually begin right in your vehicle, so your pet's safety should begin there, as well. That's why pet restraint is a safety measure all pet owners should be addressing.

For your mutual safety, your pet should be restrained or confined at all times while riding in your vehicle. Unrestrained, your pet can be a serious threat to you and your passengers, distracting you or impairing your ability to drive. Also, without restraint, your pet is at risk for serious injury during quick stops, sharp turns, and accidents.

In most cities, there are no seatbelt laws to protect pets - as there are for you and family members - but we hope you agree it is your undeniable responsibility whenever you travel together, whether the trip is to the local grocery store or a cross-country vacation. For the best protection, we recommend you restrain your dog in a specially designed seat or harness. Most dogs become accustomed to these quickly. In the event of a collision, cages, crates, or vehicle barriers provide the best protection for your pet.

- **Booster Seats** - The [K&H Bucket Booster Pet Seat](#) and the [Solvit Pet Booster Seats](#) are designed for small dogs. Both strap securely to your car seat to keep your pet in place throughout the trip. There are a variety of [booster seats](#) available to fit almost any sized dog.
- **Harnesses** - The [Drs. Foster & Smith Dura-Ruff® Car Safety Harness](#) and [Kurgo Enhanced Strength Tru-Fit Smart Harness](#) both attach directly to your seat belt holder and double as a walking harness during stops. [Car safety harnesses](#) allow your dog to sit, stand, or lay comfortably, while keeping them safe and secure.
- **Metal Crates** provide strong protection in your vehicle and at your destination. Your pet also enjoys an extra degree of personal comfort in his own familiar enclosure.
- **Plastic Crates**, lightweight and easy-to-clean, are also a popular choice and offer your pet safety and security. A comfortable [mat or pad](#) inserted in the crate or kennel, offers your pet cozy travels.
- **Barriers** are easy to install in your back seat or deck. The [Solvit Front Seat Net Pet Barrier](#) and the [Vehicle Pet Barrier](#) dramatically decrease injuries in

the event of a sudden stop.

Whichever restraint option you choose, never put your pet in the front seat where he can be injured by airbags.

Your dog should always wear his collar with [ID tag](#), especially when away from home. Be sure to keep your pet [leashed](#) during rest stops - you don't want to lose him in an unfamiliar area or be exposed to other pets. **NEVER leave your pet in a hot car**, even with windows cracked. In as little as 2-3 minutes, pets can overheat and even die from high temperatures. If you must leave your pet in your vehicle, always ensure proper air circulation.

We Recommend...

K&H Bucket Booster Pet Seat	Drs. Foster & Smith Dura-Ruff® Car Safety Harness	Precision Pet Products Universal 6-Bar Vehicle Pet Barrier	Drs. Foster & Smith Dura-Ruff® Folding Pet Den
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