

Amusement Ride Safety Rule

- 1) **Read and follow all posted rules**, height/age restrictions, and verbal instructions given by ride operators.
- 2) **Keep all body parts inside the ride vehicle at all times.** This includes hands, arms, legs, feet, head, etc.
- 3) **Don't run, climb, or horse around** near amusement rides.
- 4) **Never throw or drop anything** from an amusement ride. Never try to retrieve items that accidentally fall from rides.
- 5) **Always use the safety equipment provided**, including grab bars and handrails.
- 6) **Pull seat belts and lap bars tight, and double-check by pulling up to make sure they're locked.** Alert the ride operator if you need help or you're concerned about the restraint.
- 7) **Stay seated until the ride comes to a final stop** at the unloading point. If a ride stops before the unloading point, remain inside. Wait for the ride to restart, or further instructions from the operator.
- 8) **Don't let friends pressure you** into boarding a ride you're nervous about. Don't pressure others.
- 9) **Don't board a ride if it looks unsafe.**
- 10) **Stop riding before you get tired.**

Why is This Rule Important?

Posted safety rules and height/age restrictions are the ride designer's way of helping riders avoid safety hazards that might cause injury.

Riders who wave their arms in the air might accidentally hit a beam or low-hanging sign, or fall out when the car goes around a turn. Protruding hands and feet can be caught between the moving car and the surrounding structures.

If you slip and fall, you might injure yourself or knock somebody else into harm's way.

Items dropped from a ride can cause an accident by hitting another park visitor or damaging the ride. Retrieving a dropped toy or jacket can lead to injury.

Older and slower-moving amusement rides don't always have reliable restraints to keep passengers from sliding around. In those rides, designers count on riders to hold on. Grab bars are part of the safety equipment.

Ride operators are trained to double-check safety restraints before starting up the ride, but accident reports show that operators occasionally forget. Take primary responsibility for your own safety.

Even slow-moving rides can cause severe injuries, if you move into an unsafe position. Rides sometimes stop temporarily along the route. Riders have been seriously injured because they left a stalled car, and then the ride started up again.

Frightened riders – especially children – can panic and might try to get out of the ride while it's moving. This creates a dangerous situation for everyone riding.

While most parks and carnivals pay close attention to safety, there are unfortunate exceptions. Follow your instincts. If something about a ride troubles you, don't ride it.

Riders need to be mentally and physically alert to safely handle changes in speed and direction.