

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Safety

Children make up 30% of ATV related deaths and emergency room visits. Off-road vehicles may be dangerous for children under 16 years old, because their brain and nerves are not yet fully developed.

What can I do to help make ATV riding safer?

- Take a safety course. Anyone riding an ATV should do that.
- Do not ride an ATV with a passenger. Only one rider should be on an ATV at a time.
 - Most ATVs are made to have one rider: the driver.
 - o ATVs may be harder to control if more than one person is riding.
- Never use any motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drugs or some prescription drugs.
- Do not ride an ATV on paved roads.
 - o ATVs do not have safety equipment like cars and trucks.
 - o ATV tires may not be made to grip the pavement.
- Do not drive an ATV at night or dusk, when it is dark outside and hard to see.
- Keep all four wheels on the ground while driving an ATV
 - o Avoid wheelies and "dare-devil" stunts.



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What type of equipment should I wear while driving an ATV??

The following equipment can help prevent severe injuries. Make sure you always wear: A motorcycle helmet that is the correct size for the rider.

- The helmet should have safety visors and a face shield to protect your eyes and face.
- o The helmet should **not** be a bike helmet.
- eye gear
- Closed shoes (no flip-flops)
- Protective, reflective clothing.

Use flags, reflectors, and lights to make ATVs easier to see.

Reference :American Academy of Pediatrics. Multiple Riders, Lack of Helmet Use, and Faster ATVs Contribute to Pediatric Injuries. Accessed from http://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/Pages/Multiple-Riders,-Lack-of-Helmet-Use,-and-Faster-ATVs-Contribute-to-Pediatric-Injuries.aspx on 12/12/2012.

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