

Scooter Safety

Facts About Scooters



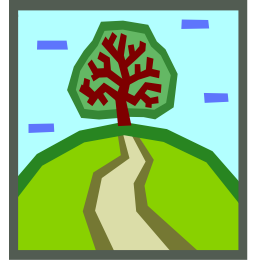
◆ Sixty percent of injuries from riding a scooter could be prevented if riders would wear protective gear.

◆ Scooter injuries include broken bones or dislocations, mostly in the arms and hands, and neck and abdominal injuries caused when children fall onto the handle bars.

they could not stop the scooter in time.

* Ride in safe areas.

Scooters belong in parks, not on streets or sidewalks next to car traffic. Riders should choose only smooth surfaces for riding.



* **Only one rider.** Most scooters are made for only one rider. Children should never try to ride with more than one person on their scooter.

Scooter Safety Tips

As of August 2000, 9,400 injuries caused by scooters were reported in the U.S. These are some ways to reduce the risk of injury:

* **SUPERVISION.** Children less than eight years old should not use scooters without very close adult supervision.

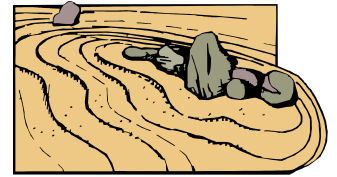


* **Always wear protective gear.** Experts say that riders should wear a padded helmet **AND** knee and elbow pads. Do not wear wrist guards when riding a scooter because they get in the way of steering the scooter.

* Young children do not understand the risks they are taking. They are also not coordinated enough to stop a scooter well. Children can crash into walls because



* **Avoid anything that could cause the front wheel to stop.** Riding



over water, speed bumps, sand, gravel or even a small bump in the sidewalk can stop the front wheel. It is better to ride around bumps than to fall off.



* **Don't ride in the dark or in bad weather.** If a rider chooses to ride in the dark it is important that the scooter have a headlight and taillight.