



Global Pet PLUS

Companion's Corner

Pros in the know for pets on the go.

Please Read Before Your Next Doggy Road Trip

Dogs love to go for a ride in the car! All you have to do is jingle your car keys and the excitement begins. In an instant, your dog dashes into the room to make sure that they are included in this automobile adventure. Tails wagging, big smiles on their faces, jumping up and down, leaving no room for doubt that they are ready to go for a ride in the car.

Let's face it—we love taking our pet companions along for the ride. According to data compiled by AAA, 56% of those surveyed said that they drive at least once a month with their dog in the car and an estimated 30 million dogs will take road trips this Labor Day weekend. Most of us don't like leaving our dogs behind.

51% of pet parents are taking their dogs and cats with them when they travel.*

Now for a serious question: Would you ever let a child ride in your car without a seat belt? Obviously you would not. Accidents do happen and seatbelts do save lives. Riding in the car is just as dangerous for your pet...and you. An unrestrained 10-pound dog in a crash at only 30 mph will exert 300 pounds of force on what ever it hits.** The bottom line is that an unrestrained pet can be seriously injured or killed in a relatively minor traffic accident, not to mention the potential hazard to you, the driver.

Our pet experts here at Global Pet Plus universally recommend pet owners to use a restraint system whenever driving with a pet aboard for any car ride. On a long distance road trip at highway speeds, it is even more critical. It is no longer considered safe or politically correct to drive with your dog in your lap or with their head out the window!

It is important to find a good quality dog restraint that is comfortable and easy to use. Regrettably, there are no industry performance standards or legal requirements for manufacturers of pet restraints like there are for child safety car seats. However, the Center for Pet Safety (CPS) recently teamed up with automaker Subaru to study the effectiveness of dog restraints and announced the results in their "2015 Crate and Carrier Crashworthiness Studies". The top three safest restraints and the full dog restraint performance report can be found at the CPS website www.CenterforPetSafety.org.

Traveling with your pet has never been easier or more fun. There are now many dog-friendly airlines, hotels, restaurants, wineries, taverns, parks and beaches. You can plan an entire vacation around fun things to do with your pet and **Global Pet Plus** is here to assist you every step of the way.

Sources:

*Data compiled by AAA and Best Western International.

** AAA study

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