

Scooter Safety

Kids love outdoor toys and they are great for getting kids off the couch, away from the TV and outside moving around.



The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends that riders, especially children, wear proper safety gear including a helmet and knee and elbow pads to help prevent injuries. Almost two thirds of scooter injuries can be prevented by wearing a helmet. It could also be required by law; Louisiana and twenty-one other states have motorcycle helmet laws that cover all low-power cycles; check the website <http://www.iihs.org/laws/maplowpowercyclehelmets.aspx> to find out the laws in your state. It is a good idea to wear a helmet for even non-motorized scooters, as injuries caused by falls

Most injuries resulted when riders fell from the scooter. Fractures and dislocations accounted for about one quarter of the injuries, mostly to arms and hands. The best investment against injury is protective gear which can cost less than \$30.

On sidewalks, be especially careful for pedestrians, who always have the right of way.

Almost a third of all scooter-related injuries and accidents involve children under the age of eight. Children under eight should always be supervised when using scooters. For your child based on the child's age, height,

The following safety guidelines are recommended:

- Read your owners manual before operation.
- Always wear safety gear; a helmet, knee pads and elbow pads. Protective eye wear and sturdy shoes are also suggested.
- Know and obey local laws and guidelines for your type of scooter.
- Make sure both handle bars and the steering column are securely locked in place before riding.
- Routinely check all nuts and bolts to be sure they are secure.
- Keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the floorboards while riding.
- Always ride scooters on the sidewalk or paved off-road paths. Stay away from cars and other motor vehicle traffic.
- Stay away from water, sand, gravel or dirt; stay on smooth surfaces.
- Obey the speed limits and never travel faster than your skill level or than the conditions allow.
- Stop at the end of the driveway. Look left, right, and left before entering or crossing a street. Crossing at crosswalks is preferred.
- Always ride during daylight, never in the dark.



If you have questions or need additional information, visit www.lexleeovertonlaw.com, email lexlee@lexleeovertonlaw.com or call 225.761.7272.