
A Word to Mazda Owners

Thank you for choosing a Mazda. We at Mazda design and build vehicles with complete customer satisfaction in mind.

To help ensure enjoyable and trouble-free operation of your Mazda, read this manual carefully and follow its recommendations.

An Authorized Mazda Dealer knows your vehicle best. So when maintenance or service is necessary, that's the place to go.

Our nationwide network of Mazda professionals is dedicated to providing you with the best possible service.

We assure you that all of us at Mazda have an ongoing interest in your motoring pleasure and in your full satisfaction with your Mazda product.

Mazda Motor Corporation
HIROSHIMA, JAPAN

Important Notes About This Manual

Keep this manual in the glove box as a handy reference for the safe and enjoyable use of your Mazda. Should you resell the vehicle, leave this manual with it for the next owner.

Please be aware that this manual applies to all models, equipment and options. As a result, you may find some explanations for equipment not installed on your vehicle.

All specifications and descriptions are accurate at the time of printing. Because improvement is a constant goal at Mazda, we reserve the right to make changes in specifications at any time without notice and without obligation.

Air Conditioning and the Environment

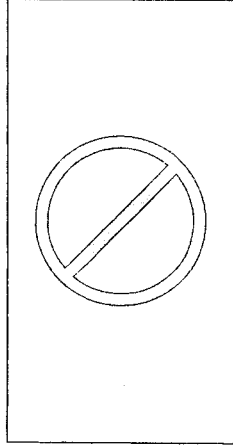
Your Mazda's genuine air conditioner is filled with R134a, a refrigerant that has been found not to damage the earth's ozone layer. If the air conditioner does not operate properly, consult an Authorized Mazda Dealer.

©2000 Mazda Motor Corporation
Printed in Japan Jan. 2000 (Print1)

How to Use This Manual

We want to help you get the most driving pleasure from your vehicle. Your owner's manual, when read from cover to cover, can do that in many ways.

Illustrations complement the words of the manual to best explain how to enjoy your Mazda. By reading your manual, you can find out about the features, important safety information, and driving under various road conditions.



The above symbol in this manual means "Do not do this" or "Do not let this happen".

Index: A good place to start is the Index, an alphabetical listing of all information in your manual.

Sections: This manual has eleven sections. Sections 1 through 10 begin with a brief list of contents, so you can usually tell at a glance if that section has the information you want.

You'll find several **WARNINGS**, **CAUTIONS**, and **NOTES** in the manual.

WARNING

A WARNING indicates a situation in which serious injury or death could result if the warning is ignored.

CAUTION

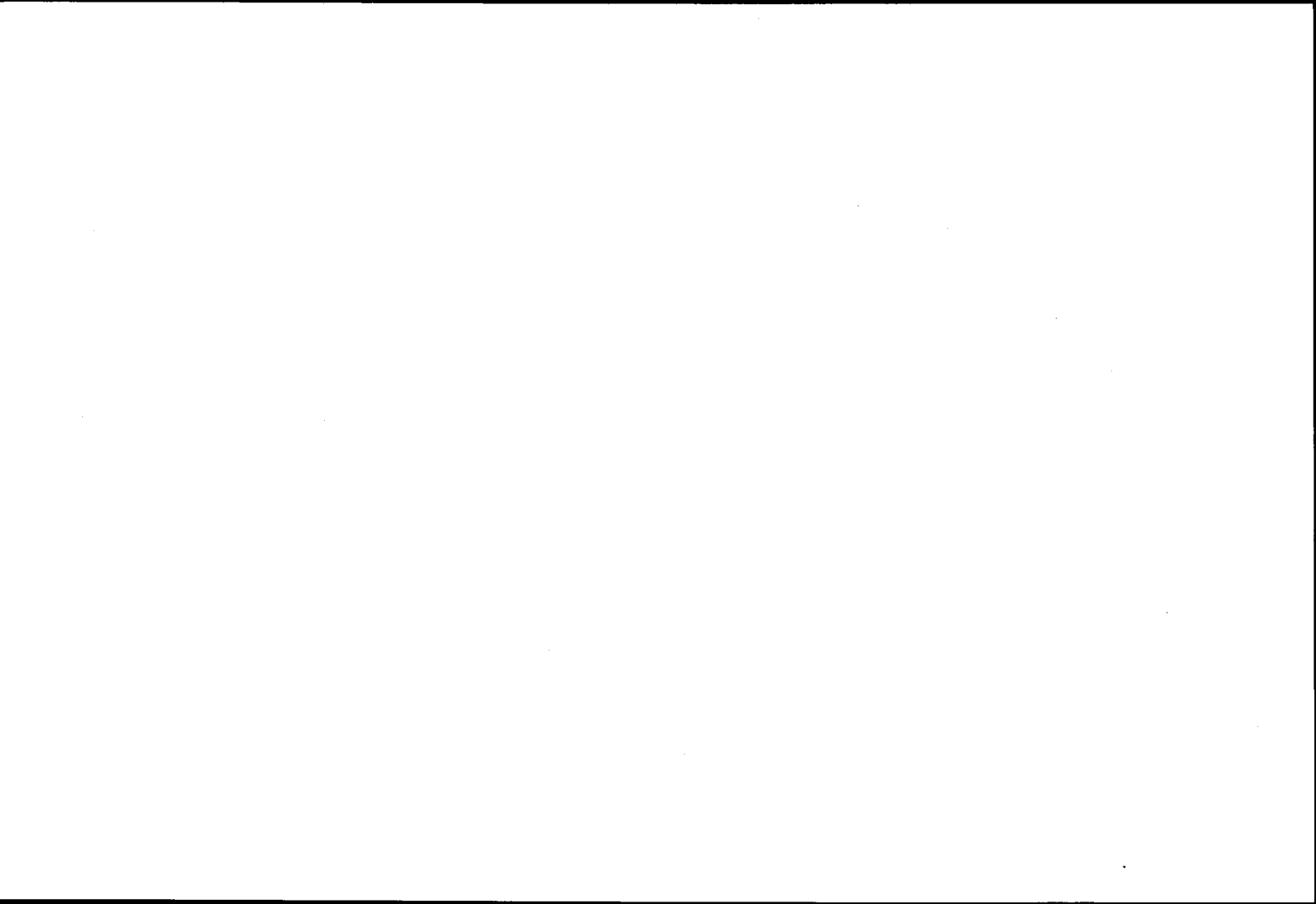
A CAUTION indicates a situation in which bodily injury or damage to your vehicle, or both, could result if the caution is ignored.

NOTE

A NOTE provides information and sometimes suggests how to make better use of your vehicle.

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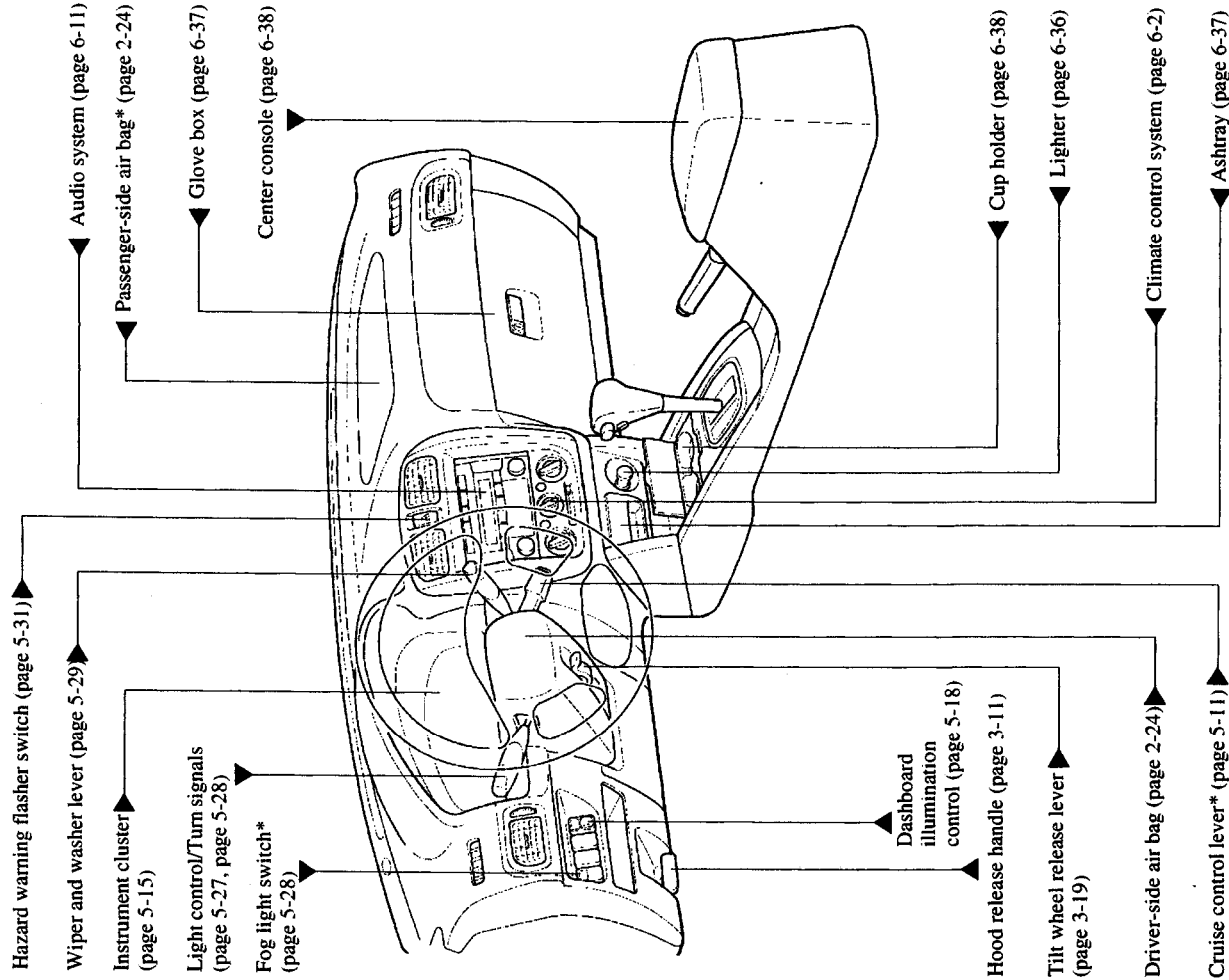
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Your Vehicle at a Glance

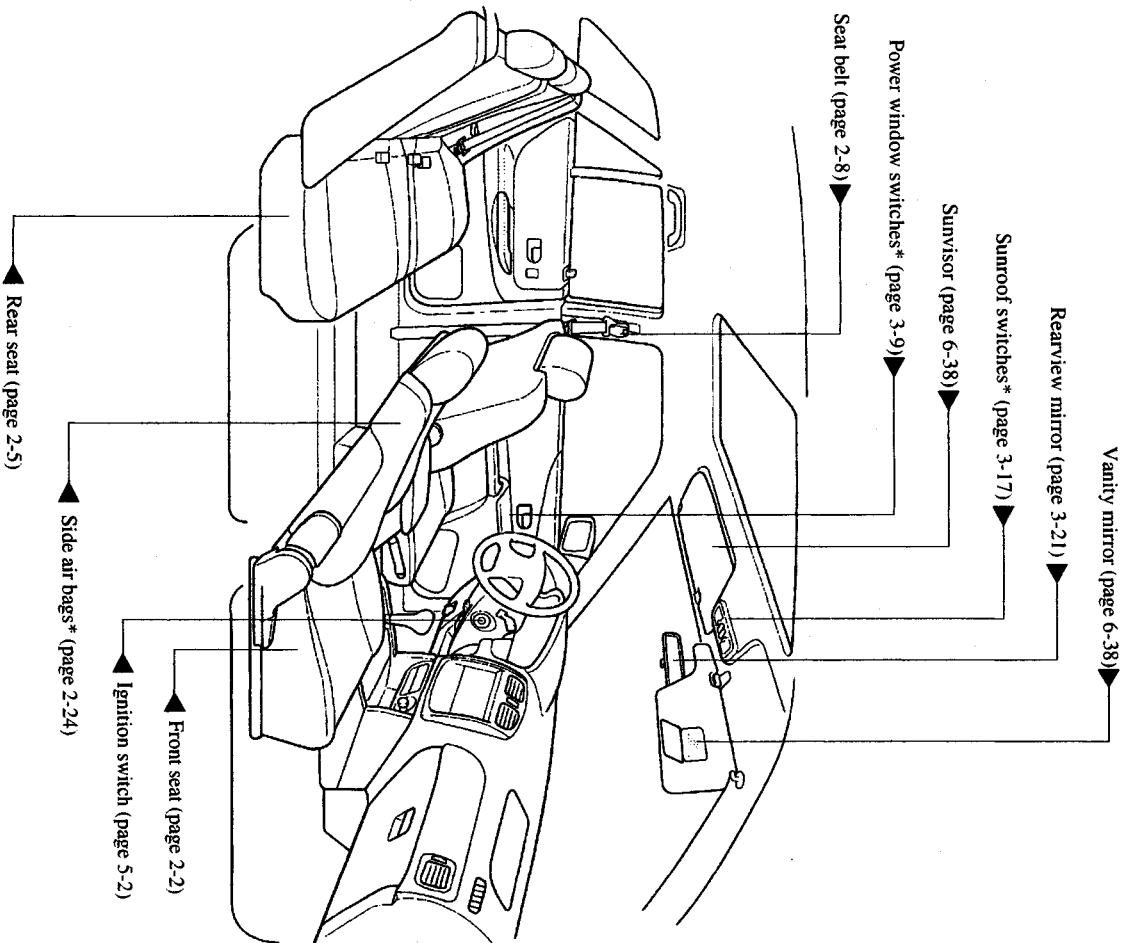
Interior and exterior views and part identification of your Mazda.

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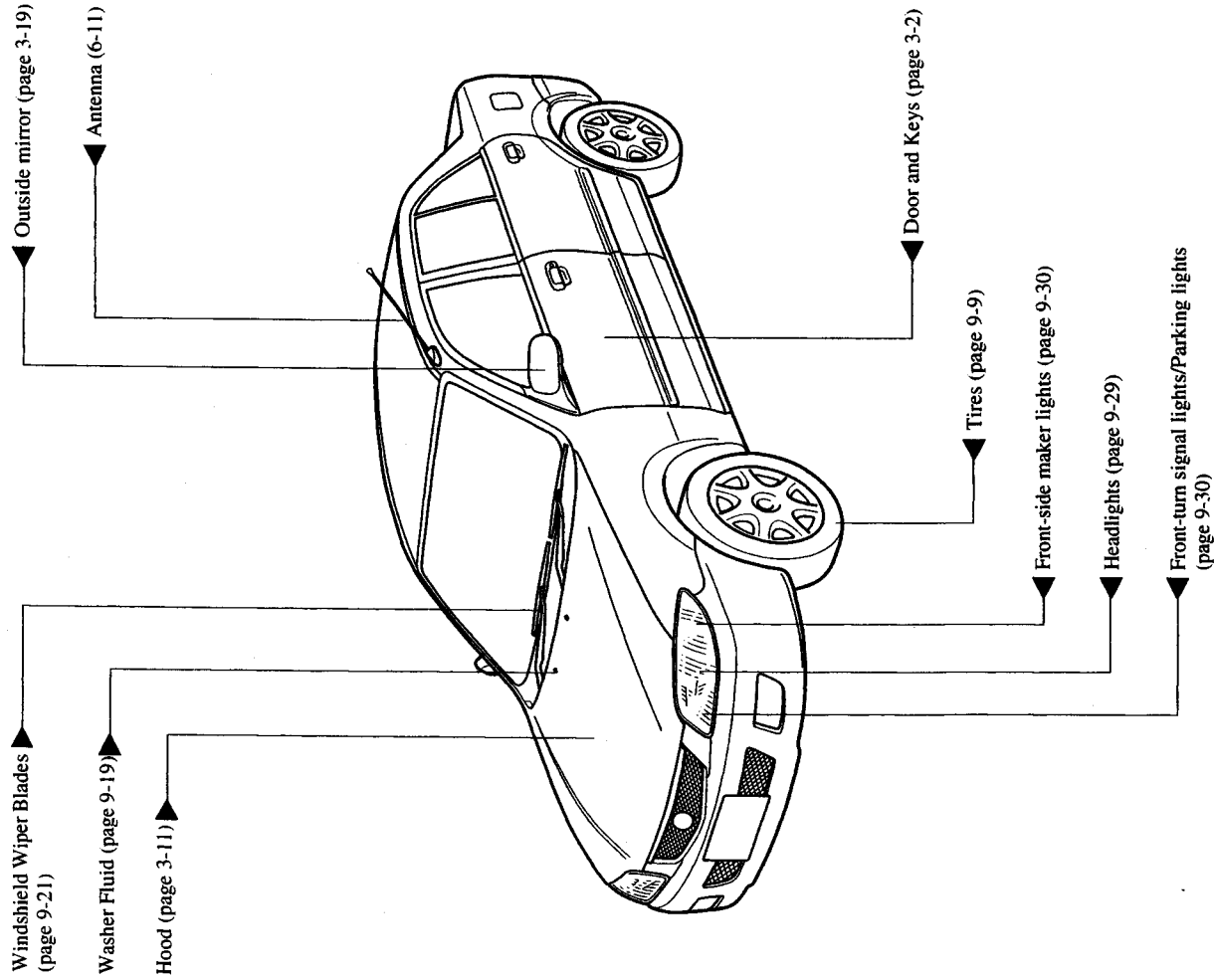
Dashboard Overview



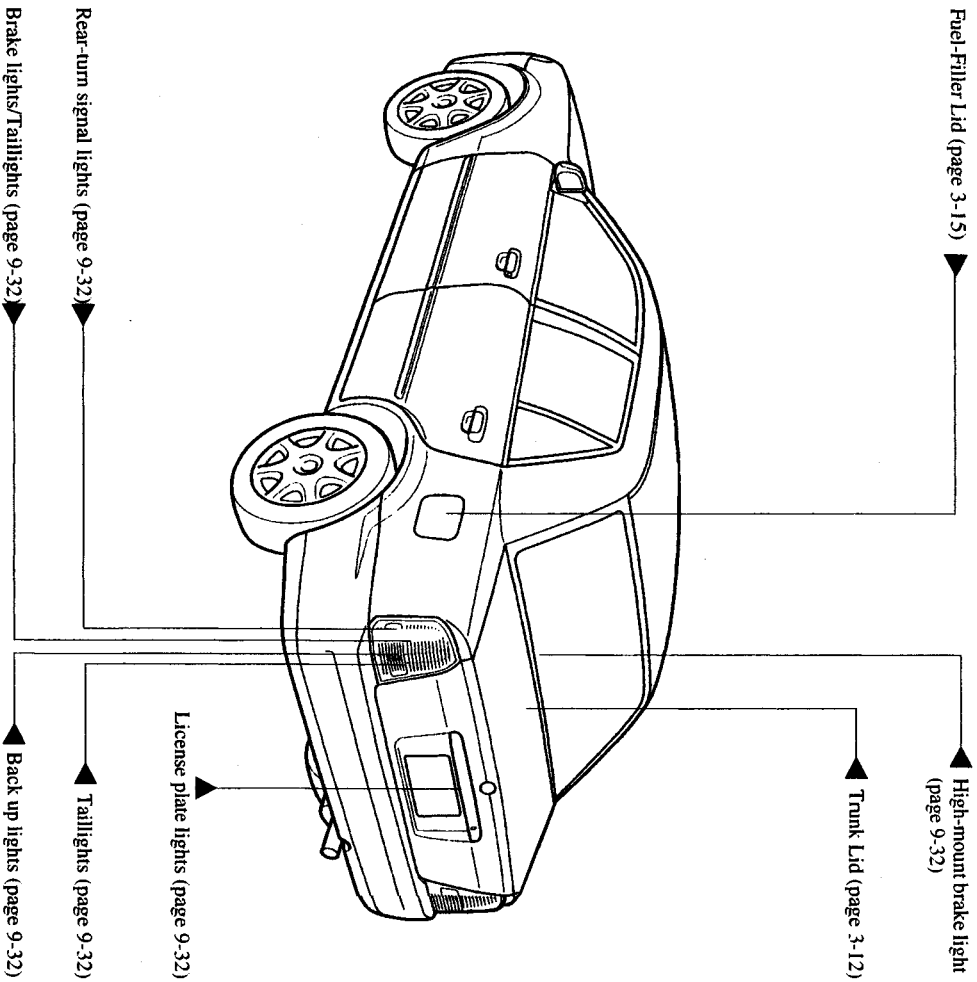
Your Vehicle at a Glance
Interior Overview

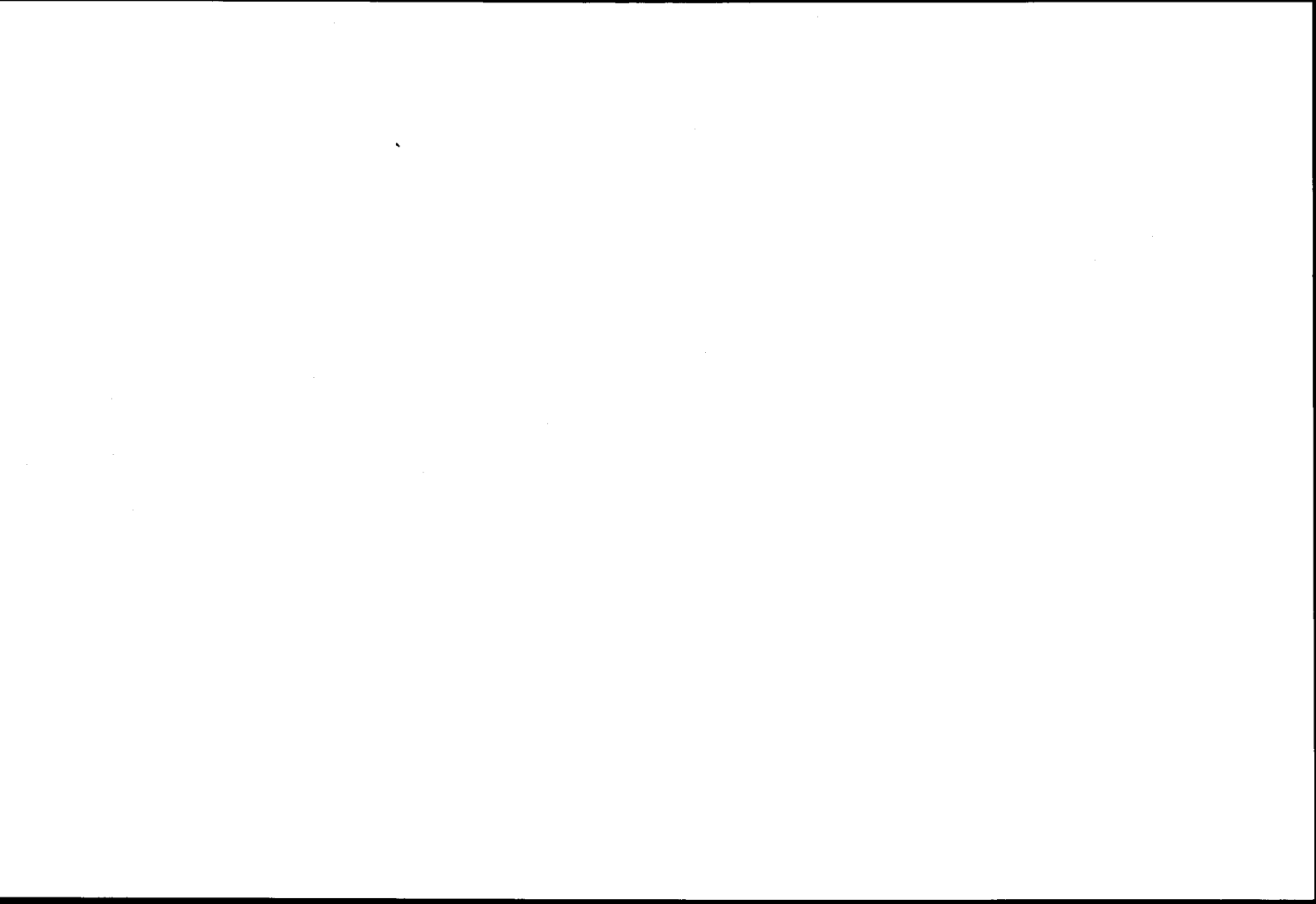


Your Vehicle at a Glance
Exterior Overview



Your Vehicle at a Glance Exterior Overview





2

Essential Safety Equipment

Use of safety equipment, including seats, seat belt system, SRS air bags and child-restraint systems.

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Front Seats

⚠ WARNING

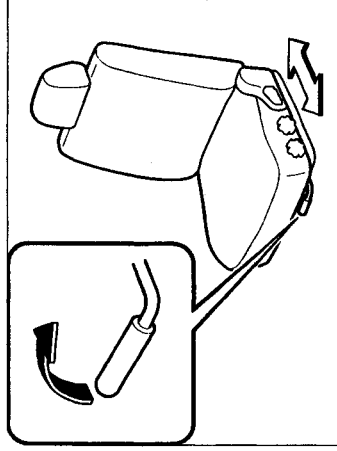
*Securing the Seats:
Adjustable seats and seatbacks that are not securely latched are dangerous. In a sudden stop or collision, the seat or seatback could move, causing injury. Make sure the adjustable components of the seat are locked in place by attempting to slide the seat forward and backward and rocking the seatback.*

▼ Seat Slide

⚠ WARNING

*Driver's Seat Adjustment:
Adjusting the driver's seat while the vehicle is moving is dangerous. The driver could lose control of the vehicle and have an accident. Adjust the driver's seat only when the vehicle is stopped.*

To move a seat forward or backward, raise the lever and slide the seat to the desired position.



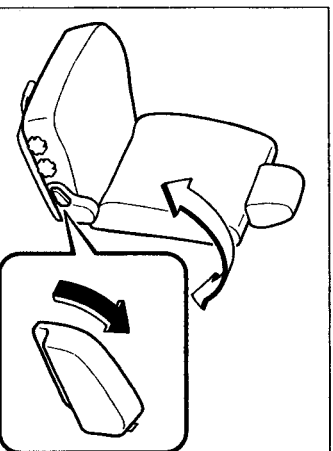
▼ **Seat Recline**

⚠ WARNING

Reclining:

Sitting in a reclined position while the vehicle is moving is dangerous because you don't get the full protection from seat belts. During sudden braking or a collision, you can slide under the lap belt and suffer serious internal injuries. For maximum protection, sit well back and upright.

To change the seatback angle, lean forward slightly while raising the lever. Then lean back to the desired position and release the lever.



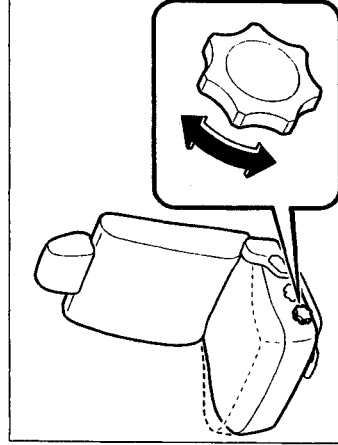
Make sure the lever returns to its original position and the seatback is locked in place by attempting to push it forward and backward.

⚠ CAUTION

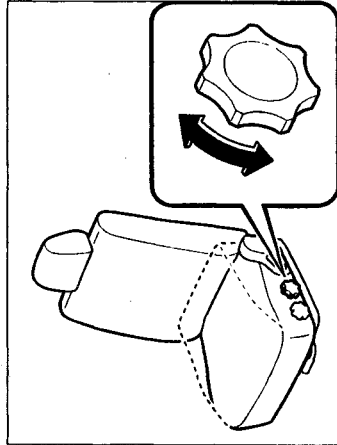
When returning a rear-reclined seatback to its upright position, make sure you support the seatback while operating the seatback lever. If the seatback is not supported, it will flip forward suddenly and could cause injury.

▼ Seat Tilt (Driver's Seat)*

The seat-bottom angle can be adjusted by rotating the dial. The front dial tilts the front of the seat bottom upward.



The seat-bottom angle can be adjusted by rotating the dial. The rear dial tilts the rear of the seat bottom upward.



▼ Head Restraint

⚠ WARNING

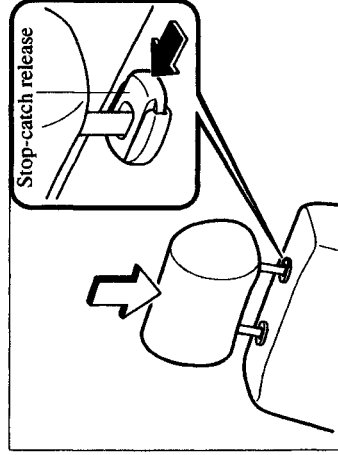
Head Restraints Adjustment:

Driving with the head restraints adjusted too low or removed is dangerous. With no support behind your head, your neck could be seriously injured in a collision. Always drive with the head restraints inserted when seats are being used and make sure they are properly adjusted.

Height adjustment

To raise a head restraint, pull it up to the desired position.

To lower the head restraint, press the stop-catch release, then push the head restraint down.



Adjust the head restraint so that the top parallels the top of the passenger's ears, never the passenger's neck.

Rear Seat

▲ WARNING

Stacking Cargo:

Stacking luggage or other cargo higher than the seatbacks or putting things on the rear package tray is dangerous. During sudden braking or a collision, objects can become projectiles that may hit and injure passengers. Don't stack things higher than the seatbacks or put things on the rear package tray.

▲ WARNING

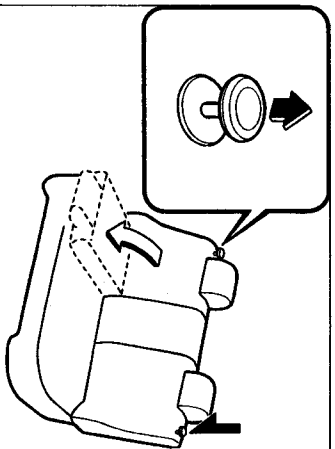
Securing Seats:

Adjustable seats and seatbacks that are not securely latched are dangerous. In a sudden stop or collision, the seat or seatback could move, causing injury. Make sure the adjustable components of the seat are locked in place by attempting to slide the seat forward and backward and rocking the seatback.

▼ Split-Folding Rear Seatback

To provide more space in the trunk:

1. Unfasten the lap portion of the rear-center seat belt (page 2-14)
2. Pull the lock release up and fold the seatback forward.



▲ CAUTION

Don't let the seat belt or buckle get caught between the seatbottom and seatback when folding the seat. The seatbelt and buckle could be damaged.

NOTE

- Unlock the seatback before you fold it forward (page 2-7).
- When folding the rear-right seatback, the rear-center seat belt does not have to be unfastened.

Seats

To return the seatbacks to their original positions:

3. Lift the seatback and push it firmly into place.
4. Fasten the lap portion of the rear-center seat belt (page 2-14)

CAUTION

Don't let the rear-center seat belt tongues or buckles get caught between the seatback and the rear package tray.

NOTE

When you return the seatbacks to their original position:

- Make sure the seatbacks are securely latched by rocking the seatback.
- Make sure the rear seat belts can be pulled out of the retractors. If a belt is locked, firmly pull and release it, then slowly pull it out again.

WARNING

Unlocked Seatback:

A seatback plays an important role in your protection in a vehicle. Leaving the seatback unlocked is dangerous as it can allow passengers to be ejected or thrown around and baggage to strike occupants in a sudden stop or collision, resulting in severe injury. After returning the seat at any time, even when there are no other passengers, rock the seatback to make sure it is locked in place.

WARNING

Passenger on the Folded Seatback:

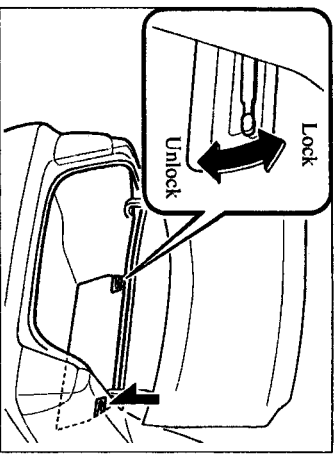
Driving with a passenger on the folded seatback is dangerous. Allowing a child to sit up on the folded seatback while the vehicle is moving is particularly dangerous. In a sudden stop or even a minor collision, a child not in a proper seat or child-restraint system and seat belt could be thrown forward, back or even out of the car resulting in serious injuries or death. The child or other objects in the baggage area could be thrown into other occupants and cause serious injury. Never allow a passenger to sit or stand on the folded seatback while the vehicle is moving.

▲ WARNING

Children and the Folding Rear Seats:
Playing with the folding rear seats is dangerous. The folding rear seatbacks cannot be folded down from inside the luggage compartment. Do not give the car keys to children and do not allow them to play in the vehicle.

▼ Rear Seatback Lock

To lock or unlock a seatback, move the lever.



NOTE

The seatback locks are part of the trunk security system (page 3-12).

Seat Belt Systems

Seat Belt Precautions

Seat belts help to decrease the possibility of severe injury during accidents and sudden stops. Mazda recommends that the driver and all passengers always wear seat belts.

All of the seat belt retractors are designed to keep the lap/shoulder belts out of the way when not in use.

The driver's seat belt has no provisions for child-restraint systems and has only an emergency locking mode. The driver may wear it comfortably, and it will lock during a collision.

However, the front passenger's seat and rear lap/shoulder belt retractors operate in two modes, emergency locking mode and for child-restraint systems, automatic locking mode.

▼ Pregnant Women and Persons with Serious Medical Conditions

Pregnant women should wear seat belts. Ask your doctor for specific recommendations. The lap belt should be worn **SNUGLY AND AS LOW AS POSSIBLE OVER THE HIPS**. Persons with serious medical conditions also should wear seat belts. Check with your doctor for any special instructions regarding specific medical conditions.

▼ Emergency Locking Mode

If the belt has fully retracted, it will always be in the emergency locking mode until you move it into automatic locking mode by pulling the belt all the way out to its full length. In the emergency locking mode, the belt remains comfortable on the occupant and the retractor will lock in position during a collision.

If the belt feels tight and hinders comfortable movement while the vehicle is stopped or in motion, you may be in the automatic locking mode because you have pulled the belt too far out. To return to the more comfortable emergency locking mode, wait until you can stop the vehicle in a safe area, retract the belt fully to convert it back to emergency locking mode and then again extend it around you.

▼ Automatic Locking Mode

Always use the automatic locking mode to keep the child-restraint system from shifting to an unsafe position in the event of an accident. To get the seat belt into the automatic locking mode, pull it all the way out and connect it as instructed on the child-restraint system. It will retract down to the child-restraint system and stay locked on it. See the section on child restraint (page 2-20).

⚠ WARNING

Not Wearing Seat Belts:

Not wearing a seat belt is extremely dangerous. During a collision, occupants not wearing seat belts could hit someone or things inside the vehicle or even be thrown out of the vehicle. They could be seriously injured or even killed. In the same collision, occupants wearing seat belts would be much safer. Always wear your seat belt and make sure all occupants are properly restrained.

Seat Belt Damaged During an Accident:

Using a damaged seat belt is dangerous. An accident could damage the belt webbing in use. A damaged seat belt cannot provide adequate protection in a collision. Have an Authorized Mazda Dealer inspect all seat belt systems in use during an accident before they are used again.

Twisted Seat Belts:

Twisted seat belts are dangerous. In a collision, the full width of the belt isn't available to absorb the impact. This puts more force on the bones beneath the belt, which could break them or cause other serious injury or death. Don't wear twisted seatbelts.

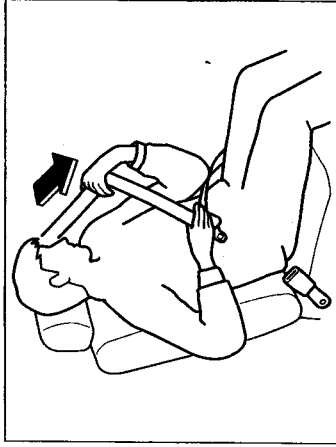
One Belt, One Passenger:

Using one seat belt for more than one person at a time is dangerous. A seat belt used in this way can't spread the impact forces properly and the two passengers could be crushed together and seriously injured or even killed. Never use one belt for more than one person at a time.

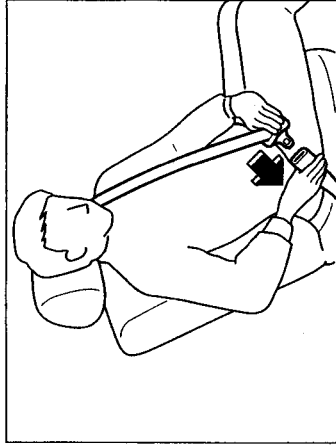
3-Point Type

▼ **Fastening the Seat Belts**

1. Grasp the buckle and tongue.
2. Slowly pull out the lap/shoulder belt.



3. Insert the tongue into the buckle until you hear a click.

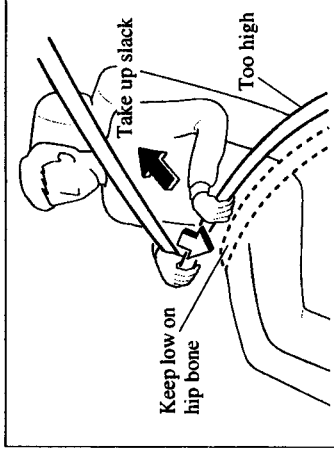


⚠ **WARNING**

Positioning the Shoulder Portion of the Seat Belt:

Improper positioning of the shoulder portion of the seat belt is dangerous. An improperly positioned belt will provide little or no protection in a collision. Always make sure the shoulder portion of the seat belt is positioned across your shoulder and near your neck, but never under your arm, on your neck, or on your upper arm.

4. Make sure the shoulder belt is snugly fitted against your body.



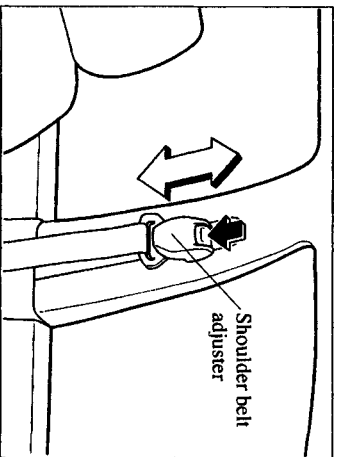
⚠ **WARNING**

Positioning the Lap Portion of the Seat Belt:

The lap portion of the seat belt worn too high is dangerous. In a collision, this would concentrate the impact force directly on the abdominal area, causing serious injury. Wear the lap portion of the belt snugly and as low as possible.

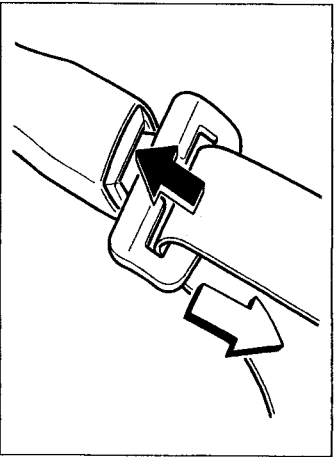
Front Seat Belt Pretensioner and Load Limiting Systems

This adjusts the shoulder belt angle for a more comfortable fit. Simply push the button, move it to the desired position, and then release it. Make sure the adjuster is locked.



▼ Unfastening the Seat Belts

Depress the button on the buckle.



NOTE

If a belt does not fully retract, inspect it for kinks and twists.

For optimum protection, the driver and front passenger seat belts are equipped with pretensioner and load limiting systems.

In moderate or greater frontal or near-frontal accidents, the front air bag and pretensioner systems deploy simultaneously. The pretensioners take up slack in the front seat belts as the air bags are expanding. The load limiting system releases belt webbing in a controlled manner to reduce belt force on the occupants.

Seat Belt Systems

⚠ WARNING

Incorrect Positioning of the Driver and Front Passenger Seat Belts:
Incorrect positioning of the driver and front passenger seat belts is dangerous. Without proper positioning, the front pretensioner and load limiting systems cannot provide adequate protection in an accident and this could result in serious injury. Wear seat belts only as recommended in this owner's manual.

Modification or Testing of the Pretensioner System:

Modifying the components or wiring of the pretensioner system, including the use of electronic testing devices is dangerous. You could accidentally activate it or make it inoperable which would prevent it from activating in an accident. Front occupants could be seriously injured. Never modify the components or wiring, or use electronic testing devices on the pretensioner system.

Pretensioner System Disposal:

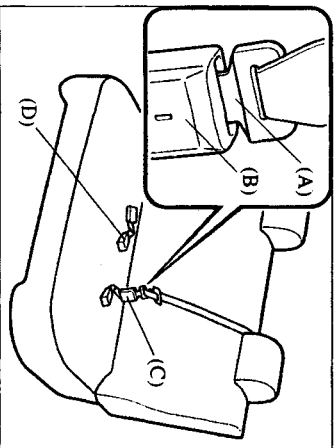
Improper disposal of the pretensioner system or a vehicle with nondeactivated pretensioners is dangerous. Unless all safety procedures are followed, injury could result. Ask an Authorized Mazda Dealer how to safely dispose of the pretensioner system or how to scrap a front pretensioner-equipped vehicle.

NOTE

- The pretensioner system will only activate in a moderate or greater frontal or near-frontal collision. It will not activate in side or rear impacts.
- Some smoke (non-toxic gas) will be released when the air bags and pretensioners deploy. This does not indicate a fire. This gas normally has no effect on occupants, however, those with sensitive skin may experience light skin irritation. If residue from the deployment of the air bags or the front pretensioner system gets on the skin or in the eyes, wash it off as soon as possible.
- The seat belt pretensioners will only function once. After they are expended, they will not work again and must be replaced immediately, even if there was no front seat occupant seated at the time.

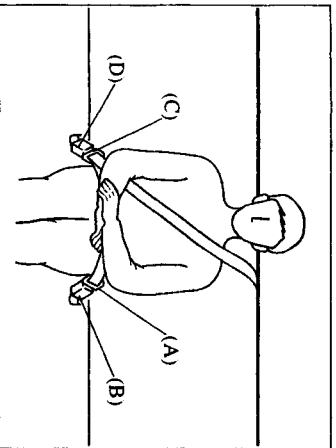
Rear-Center Position Lap/ Shoulder Belt

Before using the rear-center lap/shoulder belt, make sure tongue (A) and anchor buckle (B) are fastened.



▼ Fastening the Seat Belt

1. Grasp the buckle(D) and tongue(C).
2. Slowly pull out the lap/shoulder belt.
3. Insert the tongue(C) into the buckle(D) until you hear a click.



▲ WARNING

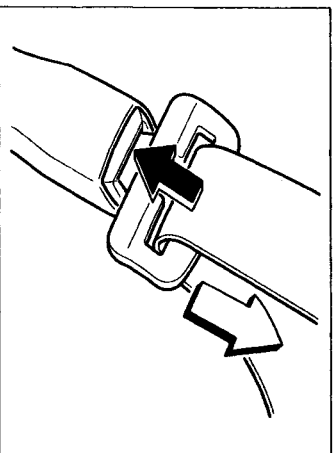
Fastening the Rear-Center Seat Belt

Only with one Buckle:

Fastening the rear-center seat belt only with one buckle is dangerous. If only one pair of seat belt tongue and buckle, either tongue (A) and anchor buckle (B) or tongue (C) and anchor buckle (D), is fastened, the seat belt cannot provide full protection. In a sudden stop or collision, the user could slide under the belt and suffer serious injuries. Always make sure that both pairs of seat belt tongues and buckles are fastened properly.

▼ Unfasten the Seat Belt

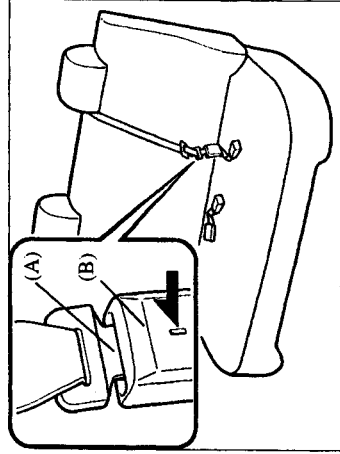
Depress the button on the buckle.



Essential Safety Equipment
Seat Belt Systems

▼ **Unfastening the Lap Portion of the Seat Belt**

Insert a small object in the anchor buckle (B) slot, such as a key.



NOTE

Always unfasten the lap portion of the belt before folding the rear-left seatback. Leaving the lap portion of the belt fastened could cause damage to the seatback.

▼ **Fastening the Lap Portion of the Seat Belt**

Grasp tongue (A) and insert it into the anchor buckle (B) until you hear a click. It is now secure for passenger use.

NOTE

After returning the rear-left seatback to its upright position, fasten the lap portion of the belt.

Seat Belt Extender

If your seat belt is not long enough, even when fully extended, a seat belt extender may be available to you at no charge from your Authorized Mazda Dealer.

This extender will be only for you and for the particular vehicle and seat. Even if it plugs into other seat belts, it may not hold in the critical moment of a crash.

When ordering an extender, only order one that provides the necessary additional length to fasten the seat belt properly. Please contact your Authorized Mazda Dealer for more information.

⚠ WARNING

Unnecessary Use of an Extender:

Using a seat belt extender when not necessary is dangerous. The seat belt will be too long and not fit properly. In an accident, the seat belt will not provide adequate protection and you could be seriously injured. Only use the extender when it is required to fasten the seat belt properly.

Using an Improper Extender:

Using a seat belt extender that is for another person or a different vehicle or seat is dangerous. The seat belt will not provide adequate protection and the user could be seriously injured in an accident. Only use the extender provided for you and for the particular vehicle and seat. NEVER use the extender in a different vehicle or seat.

Using an Extender That is Too Long:

Using an extender that is too long is dangerous. The seat belt will not fit properly. In an accident, the seat belt will not provide adequate protection and you could be seriously injured. Don't use the extender or choose one shorter in length if the distance between the extender's buckle and the center of the user's body is less than 6 inches.

**Seat Belt Warning Light/
Beep**

If the driver's seat belt is not fastened when the ignition switch is turned to the ON position, a beep will sound for about 6 seconds and the seat belt warning light will remain on until the belt is fastened.



If the system does not operate correctly, consult an Authorized Mazda Dealer.

Child Restraint Precautions

Mazda strongly urges the use of child-restraint systems for children small enough to use them.

Whatever child-restraint system you consider, please pick the appropriate one for the age and size of the child, obey state law and follow the instructions that come with the individual child-restraint system.

Statistics confirm that the rear seat is the best place for all children up to 12 years of age—the more so with a supplemental restraint system (air bags).

A rear-facing child-restraint system should never be used in the front seat because it would be too close to the air bag. The front passenger's seat is also the least preferred seat for other child-restraint systems.

▼ Small children

You are required by law to use a child-restraint system for children in the U.S. and Canada. Small children, generally those who are four years old or younger and who weigh under 18 kg (40 lb), riding in your vehicle must be protected by child-restraint systems made especially for children. Check your local and state or provincial laws for specific requirements regarding the safety of children riding in your vehicle.

▼ Older children

A child who has outgrown child-restraint systems should sit in the rear and use seat belts, both lap and shoulder. If the shoulder belt crosses the neck or face, move the child closer to the center.

Child-Restraint Systems

▲ WARNING

Proper Size of Child-Restraint System:

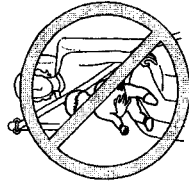
For effective protection in vehicle accidents and sudden stops, a child must be properly restrained using a seat belt or child-restraint system depending on age and size. If not, the child could be seriously injured or even killed in an accident.

Follow the Manufacturer's Instructions and Always Keep the Child-Restraint System Buckled Down.

An unsecured child-restraint system is dangerous. In a sudden stop or a collision it could move causing serious injury or death to the child or other occupants. Make sure the child-restraint system is properly secured in place according to the manufacturer's instructions. When no tinuse, remove it from the vehicle or fasten it with a seat belt.

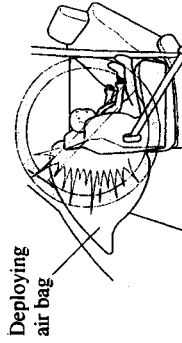
Holding a Child While the Vehicle is Moving:

Holding a child in your arms while the vehicle is moving is extremely dangerous. No matter how strong the person may be, he or she cannot hold onto a child in a sudden stop or collision and it could result in serious injury or death to the child or other occupants. Always secure a child in a proper child-restraint system.



Rear-Facing Child-Restraint System.

Rear-facing child-restraint systems on the front seat are particularly dangerous. The child-restraint system can be hit by a deploying air bag and moved violently backward resulting in serious injury or death to the child. Never use a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front seat with an air bag that could deploy.



⚠ WARNING

Passenger's Seat Position:

If your vehicle is equipped with a passenger air bag, a front-facing child-restraint system could be put on the seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of a deploying air bag could cause serious injury or death to the child.

Seating Position with Side Air Bag:

Allowing a child to lean over or against the front door is dangerous. If the vehicle is equipped with side air bags, the impact of an inflating side air bag could cause serious injury or death to the child. Children are more likely to sleep in the vehicle, when they do, they are more at risk in the front passenger's seat that has a side air bag because they may slump over into the path of the seatback mounted airbag. If a child can't be seated in the rear, do not allow the child to lean over or against the front door, even if the child is seated in a child-restraint system.

Unsecured Child-Restraint System:

A child-restraint system that is not securely fastened down is dangerous. In a sudden stop or collision, it can become a projectile and hit someone, causing serious injury. When not in use, remove it from the vehicle, put it in the luggage compartment or at least secure it with a seat belt.

One Belt, One Passenger:

Using one seat belt for more than one person at a time is dangerous. A seat belt used in this way can't spread the impact forces properly and the two passengers could be crushed together and seriously injured or even killed. Never use one belt for more than one person at a time.

⚠ CAUTION

A seat belt or child-restraint system can become very hot in a closed vehicle during warm weather. To avoid burning yourself or a child, inspect either before using.

Child-Restraint Systems

Installing Child-Restraint Systems

Accident statistics reveal that a child is safer in the rear seat. The front passenger's seat is clearly the worst choice for any child under 12, and with rear-facing child-restraint systems it is clearly unsafe due to air bags.

Some child-restraint systems now come with tethers and therefore must be installed on the seats that take tethers to be effective. In your Mazda, tethered child-restraint systems can only be accommodated in the three positions on the rear seat.

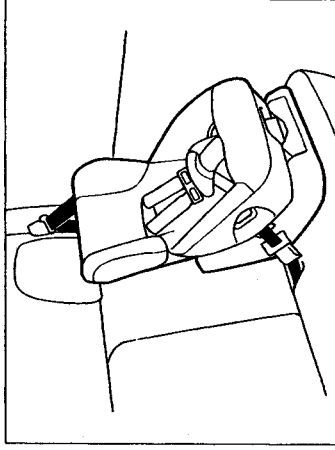
▲ WARNING

Tethered Child-Restraint Systems
Work Only on Rear Seat:
Installation of a tether equipped child-restraint system in the front passenger's seat defeats the safety design of the system and will result in an increased chance of serious injury if the seat goes forward without benefit of being tethered.
Place tether equipped child-restraint systems where there are tether anchors.

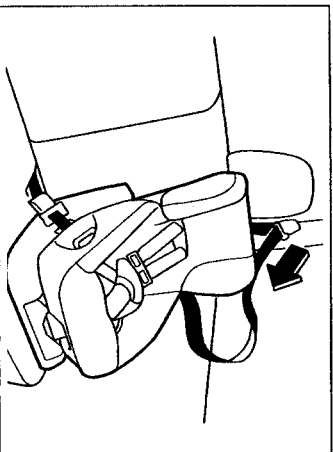
▼ Rear Seat Child-Restraint System Installation

Follow these instructions when using a child-restraint system.

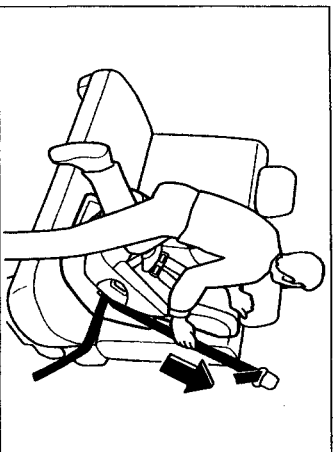
1. Secure the child-restraint system with the lap portion of the lap/shoulder belt. See the instructions on the child-restraint system for belt routing instructions.



2. To get the retractor into the automatic locking mode, pull the shoulder belt locking mode, pull the shoulder belt portion of the seat belt until the entire length of the belt is out of the retractor.



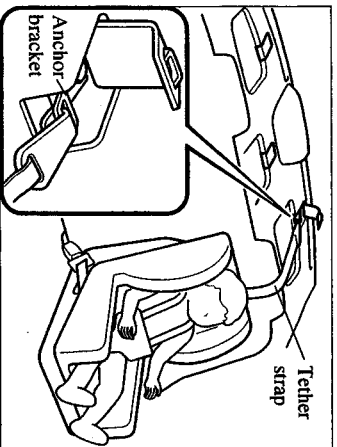
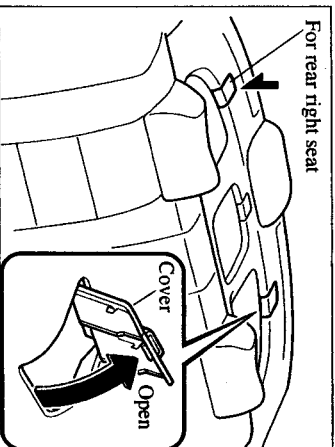
3. Push the child-restraint system firmly into the vehicle seat. Be sure the belt retracts as snugly as possible. Clicking from the retractor will be heard during retraction if the system is in the automatic locking mode. If the belt does not lock the seat down tight, repeat this step.



NOTE

Inspect this function before each use of the child-restraint system. You should not be able to pull the shoulder belt out of the retractor while the system is in the automatic locking mode. When you remove the child-restraint system, be sure the belt fully retracts to return the system to emergency locking mode before occupants use the seat belts.

4. If your child-restraint system requires the use of a tether strap, hook the tether strap by following the manufacturer's instructions.



Child-Restraint Systems

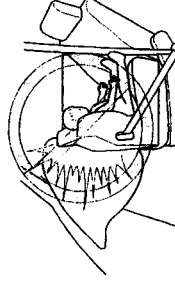
▼ If You Must Use the Front Seat for Children

If you cannot put all children in the rear seat, at least put the smallest in the rear seat and be sure the largest child up front uses the shoulder belt over the shoulder. Do not put rear-facing child-restraint systems on the front passenger's seat. This seat is also not set up for tethered child-restraint systems, put them in one of the three rear seat positions set up with tether anchors.

Don't allow anyone to sleep against the right front door if you have an optional side air bag, it could cause serious injuries to a nout of position occupant. As children more often sleep in cars, it is better to put them in the rear seat. If installing the child-restraint system on the front seat is unavoidable, follow these instructions when using a front-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger's seat.

⚠ WARNING

Rear-Facing Child-Restraint Systems: Rear-facing child-restraint systems on the front seat are particularly dangerous. The child-restraint system can be hit by a deploying air bag and moved violently backward resulting in serious injury or death to the child. Never use a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front seat with an air bag that could deploy.



NOTE

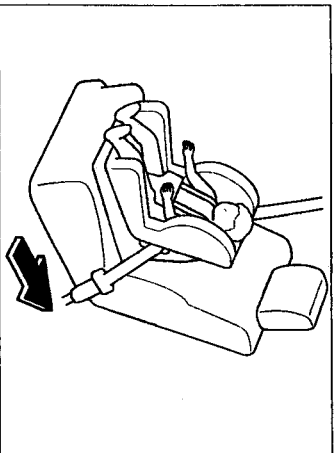
To check if your Mazda front seats have side air bags-every Mazda side air bag will have a "SRS-Air Bag" label on the outboard shoulder of the front seats.

Front passenger's seat child-restraint system installation (Lap/shoulder belt)

⚠ WARNING

Front Passenger's Seat Position:
As your vehicle has front air bags and doubly so because your vehicle has side air bags, a front-facing child-restraint system should be put on the front seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of a deploying air bag could cause serious injury or death to the child.

1. Slide the seat as far back as possible.



2. Secure the child-restraint system with the lap portion of the lap/shoulder belt. See the instructions on the child-restraint system for belt routing instructions.

3. To get the retractor into the automatic locking mode, pull the shoulder belt portion of the seat belt until the entire length of the belt is out of the retractor. Push the child-restraint system firmly into the vehicle seat.

4. Be sure the belt retracts as snugly as possible. Clicking from the retractor will be heard during retraction if the system is in automatic locking mode. If the belt does not lock the seat down tight, repeat this step.

NOTE

Inspect this function before each use of the child-restraint system. You should not be able to pull the shoulder belt out of the retractor while the system is in the automatic locking mode. When you remove the child-restraint system, be sure the belt fully retracts to return the system to emergency locking mode before occupants use the seat belts.

Supplemental Restraint Systems Precautions

The front and side supplemental restraint systems (SRS) include 4 air bags. They are located in:

- **The steering wheel**
- **The passenger side dashboard***
- **The outboard sides of the front seatbacks***

These systems operate independently, depending on the type of accident encountered; both side air bags are not likely to deploy in the same accident because a vehicle is not often hit from both sides. The front and side air bag systems will not normally deploy during the same type of accident unless a combination of frontal and side impacts occur.

In a front-end or side impact, the air bag systems (supplemental restraint systems) are designed to provide only supplemental protection for the driver and front seat passenger. Seat belts must still be worn.

Without seat belt usage, the air bags cannot provide adequate protection during an accident. Seat belt usage is necessary to:

- **Keep the passenger away from an inflating air bag.**
- **Reduce the possibility of injuries during an accident that is not designed for air bag inflation, such as roll-over or rear impact.**
- **Reduce the possibility of injuries in frontal or side collisions that are not severe enough to activate the air bags.**
- **Reduce the possibility of being thrown from your vehicle.**
- **Reduce the possibility of injuries to lower body and legs during an accident because the air bags allow no protection to these parts.**
- **Hold the driver in a position which allows better control of the vehicle.**

Small children, those under 18 kg (40 lb), should be protected by a child-restraint system (page 2-17).