

Seven-Tenths of a second

Look at your watch and see how long one second really is. If you have a stop watch, try to stop the watch at seven-tenths of a second. Now that you know how long that is, consider what happens in the first seven-tenths of a second when an automobile traveling 55MPH hits a solid object and the driver is not wearing his/her seat belt and shoulder belt.

In the *first tenth of a second*, the front bumper and grille collapse.

In the *second tenth of a second*, the hood crumples, raises and strikes the windshield while the rear wheels are lofted from the ground, still spinning at 55MPH. Simultaneously, the fenders begin wrapping themselves around the object that was just struck by the car. The frame of the car has stopped moving, but the rest of the car is still traveling at 55MPH. The driver instinctively stiffens his/her legs against the crash and they snap at the knee joint.

During the *third tenth of a second*, the steering wheel starts to disintegrate in the driver's hand and the steering column is aimed at the driver's chest.

The *forth tenth of a second*, finds the first two feet of the car's front end wrecked, the rear moving at 35MPH, but the driver's body still traveling at 55MPH.

In the *fifth tenth of a second*,(a "split second"), the driver is impaled on the steering column and his/her lungs begin to fill with blood.

In the *sixth tenth of a second*, the driver's feet are ripped out of their shoes, the brake pedal snaps off and the car frame buckles in the middle. The driver's head smashes into and through the windshield as the rear wheels fall back to earth.

In the *seventh tenth of a second*, doors fly open, hinges rip loose and the seats break free, striking the driver from behind. The driver does not feel the seat striking him/her, because he/she is already *dead!*

A lot has happened in less than one second. Think about how long one second is the next time you decide not to wear a seat belt. Think about how long seven-tenths of a second is. Then think how long eternity is.

Makes you think doesn't it. This article is available courtesy of the Dennis Pfauth Insurance Agency 921 Kimbark St Longmont CO 80501. Protecting Colorado families for over 20 years. For this and other FREE ARTICLES we invite you to visit our web site. WWW.longmont-insurance.com