

Travel Safely

Rear-Facing: Secure children in a **rear-facing car seat until 2 years of age** or until the maximum weight or height allowed by the manufacturer of the car seat. Children younger than 1 year should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. **Never** place a rear-facing car seat in the front seat with an active passenger-side front air bag.

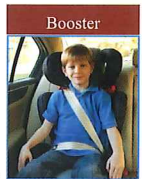


Forward-Facing: When children outgrow the rear-facing car seat, secure them in a **forward-facing car seat with a harness for as long as possible**, up to the highest weight or height allowed by the manufacturer of the car seat.

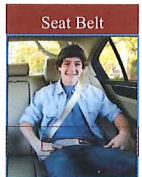


Belt-Positioning Booster Seat:

Once children outgrow their forward-facing car seat, secure them in a **belt-positioning booster seat with a lap and shoulder belt** until the seat belt fits properly, typically when a child is approximately **4 feet 9 inches and between 8 and 12 years of age**.



Seat Belt: When children outgrow their belt-positioning booster seat, secure them in a **properly fitted lap and shoulder belt**. A lap and shoulder belt fits properly when the lap belt lays low and snug across the hips/upper thighs and the shoulder belt fits across the center of the chest and shoulder.



Children younger than age 13 should ride in a back seat.

Checklist for Transporting Children

Right Seat + Right Time + Right Use = Reducing Car Crash Injury.

Rear-Facing Checklist:

- Child's head is at least one-inch from the top of the shell of the car seat.
- Harness straps are positioned **at or below the shoulder.**
- Harness straps lay flat and fit snugly on the child with the harness retainer clip at armpit level.
- Seat belt or lower anchors in the correct belt path are locked and tight with less than one inch of side-to-side movement when pulled at the belt path.
- Read and follow the car seat manufacturer's instructions for an acceptable rear-facing recline angle.

Forward-Facing Checklist:

- Child's ears should not be above the top of the shell of the car seat.
- Harness straps are positioned **at or above the shoulder.**
- Harness straps lay flat and fit snugly on the child with the harness retainer clip at armpit level.
- Seat belt or lower anchors in the correct belt path are locked and tight with less than one inch of side-to-side movement when pulled at the belt path.
- Tether should be used following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Read and follow the car seat manufacturer's instructions to determine the appropriate upright or semi-upright angle.

Belt-Positioning Booster Seat Checklist:

- ALWAYS used with the vehicle's lap and shoulder belt.
- Shoulder belt is snug across the center of the child's shoulder and chest.
- Lap belt is low and snug across the child's hips/upper thighs.

Seat Belt Checklist:

- Able to sit with back and hips against the vehicle seat back without slouching.
- Knees easily bend over the front edge of the vehicle seat and feet flat on the floor.
- Snug shoulder belt across the center of the chest and shoulder.
- Snug lap belt low across the hips/upper thighs.
- Able to stay in position for the entire ride.