



Car Seat Safety

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“Car seats and boosters provide protection for infants and children in a crash, yet car crashes are a leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 13.”



-United States Department of Transportation



It's very important - Es muy importante - C'est très important - Nó rất quan trọng - Es ist sehr wichtig

Follow these steps to ensure the safety of your child.

Buckle Up Every Age,
Every Trip



The Process

Don't think you know.
Know you know.

- Find the right car seat
- Install your car seat correctly
- Keep your child safe in a car seat



The Right Car Seat

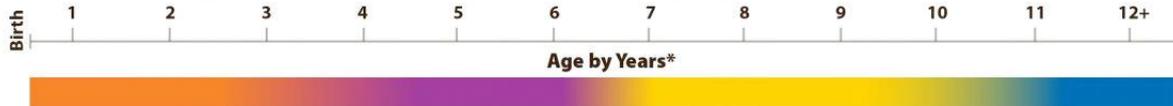
1. 3 Types of Car Seats:
 - a. Rear-Facing
 - b. Forward-Facing
 - c. Booster Seat



1. Follow the NHTSA's car seat recommendations based on your child's age and size.
2. Find and compare car seats and ease-of-use ratings using NHTSA's Car Seat Finder



Using the correct car seat or booster seat can be a lifesaver. Make sure your child is always buckled in an age- and size-appropriate car seat or booster seat.



REAR-FACING CAR SEAT

Birth until age 2—4

Buckle children in a rear-facing car seat until they reach the maximum weight or height limit of their car seat. Keep children rear-facing as long as possible. Never place a rear-facing car seat in front of an active air bag.



FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT

After outgrowing rear-facing seat and until at least age 5

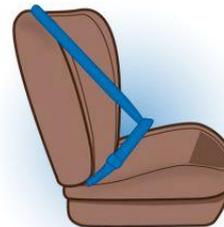
When children outgrow their rear-facing car seat, they should be buckled in a forward-facing car seat until they reach the maximum weight or height limit of their car seat.



BOOSTER SEAT

After outgrowing forward-facing seat and until seat belts fit properly

Once children outgrow their forward-facing seat, they should be buckled in a booster seat until seat belts fit properly. Proper seat belt fit usually occurs when children are 4 feet 9 inches tall and age 9-12.



SEAT BELT

Once seat belts fit properly without a booster seat

Children no longer need to use a booster seat once seat belts fit them properly. Seat belts fit properly when the lap belt lays across the upper thighs (not the stomach) and the shoulder belt lays across the chest (not the neck).

Keep children ages 12 and under properly buckled in the back seat.

**Recommended age ranges for each seat type vary to account for differences in child growth and height/weight limits of car seats and booster seats. Use the car seat or booster seat owner's manual to check installation and the seat height and weight limits, and proper seat use.*

Child safety seat recommendations: American Academy of Pediatrics.
Graphic design: adapted from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/cps



CS317117



What is your child's date of birth?

Month (mm)

Day (dd)

Year (yyyy)

How tall is your child?

Feet

Inches

How much does your child weigh?

Pounds

Ounces

Live Chat 

Want to be
sure?

Head to www.nhtsa.gov
and use their
Car Seat Finder tool.



Installation

- Read the car seat's instruction manual.
- Car seat must be secured tightly. It should not move side-to-side or front-to-back more than one inch.
- Forward-facing: if it has a tether strap, connect it to the tether anchor and tighten.
- Rear-facing: make sure it is installed at the correct recline angle

★ If you have any questions, trained Child Passenger Safety

Technicians can help.



Proper Infant Seat Harness Use



Fitting Your Child Correctly

- Harness straps should lie flat, not twisted, and placed through the slot that is at or below your child's shoulders
- Buckle the harness and the chest clip and tighten.
- Harness is snug enough when extra material cannot be pinched at the shoulder.
- Chest clip is at armpit level.



Get Your Car Seat Inspection

If you need help:

- Installing car seat
- Using car seat
- Getting car seat inspected

Our local car seat inspection station can help, and, in most cases, it's free of charge!

TXDOT - Waco District
100 S Loop Dr
Waco, TX 76704
254-867-2879



“Car seat use reduces the risk of injury in crashes by 71-82% for children, when compared with seat belt use alone.” -CDC

Keep your child safe in a car seat.



Register Your Car Seat

Congratulations- You've found the one!

Now it's time to register your car seat with the manufacturer to **receive recalls and safety notices.**

Just send the card that came with your car seat or fill out a simple form on the manufacturer's website!

Also, you can sign up with NHTSA!

- Receive email alerts about



Work Cited

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats>

<https://www.cdc.gov/injury/features/child-passenger-safety/index.html>

<https://carseatblog.com/about/>

<https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/health-human-services/public-health/health-and-wellness/healthy-families/child-passenger-safety>

<https://www.drivesmartiowa.com/childpassengersafety.php>