Car Seat Safety

Keeping Children Safe

Facts

Motor vehicle crashes are 

CAUSE OF DEATH 
among children

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Child safety seats can 

REDUCE FATAL INJURY

UP TO 71% for infants
UP TO 54% for toddlers (ages 1–4).

Tips on Using Your Car Seat

Rear-Facing Infant Seat

- Make sure your car seat base is installed at the correct recline angle. Babies must ride sitting semi-reclined so their airways remain open. Most infant car seats have built-in angle indicators to assist you.
- Properly position the harness on your child. Harness straps should lie flat, not twisted. They should be placed through the slots located at or below your child’s shoulders.
- The harness is snug enough when you cannot pinch any extra strap material at the shoulder.
- Place the chest clip at armpit level.

Forward-Facing Car Seat

- Properly position the harness on your child. Harness straps should lie flat, not twisted. They should be placed through the slots located at or above your child’s shoulders.
- Buckle the harness and the chest clip, then tighten. The harness is snug enough when you cannot pinch any extra strap material at the shoulder.
- Place the chest clip at armpit level.

Booster Seat

- Have your child sit in the seat and then fasten the seat belt.
- Position the lap/shoulder belt on your child; correctly positioning the lap belt across his/her upper thighs and the shoulder belt across his/her chest.

**RULE**

Most children will need to ride in a belt-positioning booster seat until they have reached 4 feet 9 inches tall and are between 8 and 12 years of age.

**RULE**

Parents must keep toddlers in rear-facing car seats until age 2, or until they reach the maximum height and weight listed for their given car seat model.

This material is provided for informational purposes only and does not purport to address every possible legal obligation, hazard, code violation, loss potential or exception to good practice.