



80-90% of car seats are installed incorrectly in vehicles.

ALWAYS install rear-facing, forward-facing, and booster seats in the back of your vehicle. In the event that an accident is forceful enough to deploy the front airbags, you want your child to be as far away from them as possible.

CAR SEAT STAGES

REAR-FACING

Infants have a very weak neck and back muscles. Rear facing seats provide the extra support your baby requires in the event of a sudden stop or accident

KEEP AN EYE ON:

HEAD

Ensure there is at least 2.5cm of space between the top of your child's head and the top of the car seat.

SHOULDERS

Ensure the harness straps are snug on your child's shoulders. You should only be able to fit one finger between the harness and your child's collarbone.

The harness straps should be at, or just below, your child's shoulders

FORWARD-FACING

Forward-facing car seats are meant for older children who have developed stronger neck and back muscles.

KEEP AN EYE ON:

HEAD

Ensure that the middle of your child's ear is not above the top of the car seat.

SHOULDERS

Ensure the harness straps are snug on your child's shoulders. You should only be able to fit one finger between the harness and your child's collarbone.

The harness straps should be at, or just above, your child's shoulders

BOOSTER SEATS

Booster seats are designed to raise children so adult seat belts protect them better. Booster seats protect children from serious injury 3-and-a-half times better than seatbelts alone.

KEEP AN EYE ON:

HEAD

If your booster seat has a back, ensure that the middle of your child's ear is not above the top of the seat.

SHOULDERS

Ensure the seat belt rests on your child's shoulder and NEVER on the neck, arm, or under the arm.

If there is a seat belt guide, make sure it is at or above your child's shoulder.

Second guessing if the harness straps are tight enough? If you are able to pinch the straps in the shoulder area, they are too loose!

CHEST

The chest clip must be at the level of your child's armpit and closed properly.

CHEST

The chest clip must be at the level of your child's armpit and closed properly.

IMPORTANT:

Always be sure to attach the tether strap to forward-facing car seats. If in doubt, your vehicle's owner manual will indicate where to find the tether anchors.

CHEST & HIPS

The seat belt should come over the collarbone and across the chest.

The lap belt should be snug against your child's hips and NOT their stomach.

IMPORTANT:

If you are using a no-backed booster seat, your vehicle MUST have adjustable head restraints.

Always use a lap belt and a shoulder belt.

Always be sure to buckle up an empty booster seat (or remove it from your vehicle) to prevent it from bouncing around in the back seat when not in use!

When purchasing a car seat for use in Canada, look for the National Safety Mark label attached to the seat. This indicates that the seat complies with Canadian regulations and standards and is legal for use in Canada.



WHEN TO MOVE UP A STAGE?

REAR-FACING

Keep your child in a rear-facing seat until they grow out of it.

The user guide for your car seat will indicate the maximum weight and height of a child for that particular seat.

Even if your child weighs 22 pounds, is able to walk independently and your provincial/territorial law indicates you can move to a forward facing seat, rear-facing is still safer!

FORWARD-FACING

Keep your child in a forward-facing seat until they grow out of it.

You know it's time to move up when the top of your child's ears are at the top of the car seat shell.

A forward-facing car seat is able to spread the force of a sudden stop or crash over the strongest part of your child's body.

Even if your child weighs 40 pounds and your provincial/territorial law indicates you can move up to a booster seat, your child is safer in the forward-facing seat as long as they are below the seat's weight and height limits.

BOOSTER SEATS

Please ensure you check with your provincial/territorial law before moving your child from a booster seat to a seat belt alone.

As long as your child is still in line with weight and height limits for your particular seat, it is safer to have them remain in a booster seat.

WHEN IS IT TIME TO LEAVE A BOOSTER SEAT?

Sit your child in the backseat of your car without a booster and check for the following things:

Your child's back is flush against the back of the seat

Their knees bend at the edge of the seat

The shoulder belt lies across their collarbone

The lap belt sits low and touches their thighs

Your child is able to stay seated in this correct position for the duration of the trip



REMAIN REAR FACING LONGER!

REAR-FACING

96%

injury reducing effect

8%

Chance of sustained serious injuries

50KG

Neck load in a 50 km/hr vehicle crash

vs.

FORWARD-FACING

77%

injury reducing effect

40%

Chance of sustained serious injuries

300KG

Neck load in a 50 km/hr vehicle crash

PURCHASING A CAR SEAT

Determine what stage is correct for your child based on their weight, height, and stage of development.



Ensure your child fits the weight and height limits of the seat.



Place your child in the seat and check to make sure they are comfortable.



Ensure that the car seat can be properly installed in your vehicle make & model



Send in the Product Registration Card after your purchase. This will ensure you are notified in the case of any recalls.



REPLACING A CAR SEAT

Is it expired?



Has it been in a crash or collision?



Is there damage to the shell or materials?



Car seats have expiration dates, so be sure to replace yours when it expires.

Food, cleaners, drinks, and other materials that have been spilled or used on car seat webbing, bucklers, adjusters and additional parts may prevent them from working properly !

