

Empower Minds.
Strengthen Bodies.
Inspire Creativity.

Types of Car Seats

Rear-Facing

Rear-facing car seats are designed to be installed in only one way; with the child or infant facing the back of the vehicle. These car seats typically come with a base and have a carrying handle attached, and most only accommodate infants up to 40 pounds (some accommodate less). These car seats are only safe for travel; baby should come out of the car seat when you arrive at your destination.

Rear-Facing Convertible Seat

Rear-facing convertible car seats or 3-in-1 car seats can face the rear of the car during infancy and be installed to face the front of the car when the child meets the age, height, and weight requirements. Some of them can transition into a booster designed to position the seatbelt safely when the child is old enough.

Forward-Facing with 5-Point Harness

Forward-Facing seats with a harness system are only safe when the child has met all of the requirements to transition out of their rear-facing seat. Some forward-facing car seats can transition into booster seats with a belt positioner, while others aren't equipped with this adaptability.

High-Back Booster Seat

High-back booster seats consist of a riser with a high back and a belt positioner. This puts children in a safer position and ensures the belt lies in the correct position while traveling.

Guidelines by Age

Birth to 2 years

Children should travel only a rear-facing car seat from birth to 2 years of age.

2-5 years of age

Children who are 2 – 5 years old can transition to a forward-facing seat only when they have exceeded the height or weight limit on their rear-facing car seat. Because rear facing is the safest position, children should remain in their rear facing seat until they outgrow it, and then transition to a forward-facing seat with a 5-point harness.

5 years and up

Once your child outgrows their forward-facing seat with 5-point harness, he or she can transition to a high-back booster seat with belt positioner. They should remain in the booster seat until they exceed the height and weight limits, at which time they can transition to booster only or seat belt only.

Car Seat Safety (cont. from front)

Tips for Safe Installation

- Use the LATCH system whenever it is available. The LATCH system is the safest way to secure a car seat into any vehicle.
- After installing your car seat, sit or kneel in the seat and pull the tightening strap to ensure it's installed as tightly as possible.
- Position the harness straps just at or below the level of your infant's shoulders. Evaluate this positioning often to ensure straps are moved as baby grows longer. The chest buckle should be at nipple level for maximum safety.
- Never install a car seat in the front seat if airbags are turned on. Airbags are not safe for infants or children and can result in serious injury or death.
- Whenever possible, install the car seat in back, middle seat. The middle is the safest place for baby, away from doors which may take an impact in a car accident.