





Car Seat Safety



Overview

We all want to keep our children safe in vehicles. So let's talk about car seats. Here's what you need to know to use one correctly.

Choose the proper seat

First, choose the proper seat for your child. For an infant or a small baby, you'll use a rear-facing seat. Facing the rear of the vehicle protects your child's neck and spinal cord if you're in a crash. As your child grows and their neck gets stronger, you can switch them into a front-facing seat. When your child outgrows this seat, they'll move to a booster seat. It raises them up so the shoulder strap and lap belt fit them properly.

Installation

Next, you need to make sure you install the seat the right way. Different seats use different combinations of anchors and straps. This can be tricky and frustrating. But if you don't do it right, your child will be in danger. So follow all the instructions for the seat and for your vehicle. Consider having it inspected at a police or fire station, if car seat inspections are offered in your area.

Watch for warnings

And finally, register your seat with the maker. Then, they can let you know of any safety updates or recalls. With the right seat installed the right way, you'll feel better knowing your child is safe.