

General Child Seat Use Information

**Children ages 12 and under
are safest when properly buckled in the rear seat.**

Always refer to the child seat and vehicle manufacturers' instructions for proper use and installation instructions.

INFANTS		
Age/Weight	Seat Type/Seat Position	Usage Tips
Birth to 1 year/ less than 20 lbs.	Infant-Only Seat/rear-facing or Convertible Seat/used rear-facing <i>Seats should be secured to the vehicle by the seat belts or by the LATCH system.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never use in a front seat where an air bag is present. • Tightly install child seat in rear seat, facing the rear. • Child seat should recline at approximately a 45 degree angle. • Harness straps/slots at or below shoulder level (lower set of slots for most convertible child safety seats). • Harness straps snug on child; harness clip at armpit level.
Less than 1 year/ 20-35 lbs.	Convertible Seat/used rear- facing (select one recommended for heavier infants) <i>Seats should be secured to the vehicle by the seat belts or by the LATCH system.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never use in a front seat where an air bag is present. • Tightly install child seat in rear seat, facing the rear. • Child seat should recline at approximately a 45 degree angle. • Harness straps/slots at or below shoulder level (lower set of slots for most convertible child safety seats). • Harness straps snug on child; harness clip at armpit level.

PRESCHOOLERS/TODDLERS

Age/Weight	Seat Type/Seat Position	Usage Tips
1 to 4 years/ at least 20 lbs. to approximately 40 lbs.	Convertible Seat/forward-facing or Forward-Facing Only or High Back Booster/Harness. <i>Seats should be secured to the vehicle by the seat belts or by the LATCH system.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tightly install child seat in rear seat, facing forward. • Harness straps/slots at or above child’s shoulders (usually top set of slots for convertible child safety seats). • Harness straps snug on child; harness clip at armpit level.

YOUNG CHILDREN

Age/Weight	Seat Type/Seat Position	Usage Tips
4 to at least 8 years/unless they are 4’9” (57”) tall.	Belt-Positioning Booster (no back, base only) or High Back Belt-Positioning Booster. <i>NEVER use with lap-only belts—belt-positioning boosters are always used with lap AND shoulder belts.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booster base used with adult lap and shoulder belt in rear seat. • Shoulder belt should rest snugly across chest, rests on shoulder; and should NEVER be placed under the arm or behind the back. • Lap-belt should rest low, across the lap/upper thigh area—not across the stomach.

Stay informed about child safety seat recalls and be sure to fill out the registration card that comes with new child seats.