

Car Seat Safety

Are you using the right car seat?



Does your child fit the seat's height and weight range?

Use height and weight, not age, to decide which seat to choose.

Is your seat expired?

Seats have an expiration date stamped on them – replace if yours is expired.



Is your car seat installed correctly?

Is your seat facing the right direction?

Keep your child rear-facing until they outgrow the seat's weight and height range. Manufacturers are making seats to fit and keep children rear-facing long after their 1st birthday.



For front-facing seats, is the top tether connected?

It should be. Check your car and safety seat manuals for help with tether connections.

Is your car seat too loose?

In a crash, a loose seat provides less protection. Keep seats belted in when not in use or they could become a projectile.



Inch Test



Make sure you can't move your car seat more than an inch in any Direction. To test, tug hard on the base near the seat belt path opening.

Are you using your car seat correctly?



Is your child secured in the car seat correctly?

All clips and buckles fastened and tightened so you can't pinch extra webbing at the shoulder.

Find an inspection event in your area by visiting safekids.org