

PROPER CHILD SAFETY SEAT USE CHART
Buckle Everyone. Children Age 12 and Under Ride in Back!

	INFANTS	TODDLER/PRESCHOOL	YOUNG CHILDREN	OLDER CHILDREN
Wt/ht	Birth to 1 year, weight 20-22#, and height 19-26"	Over 1 year and 20 to 65# Ht per manufacturer's guidelines	4 to 8 yrs, wt 40-80#, ht <4'9" Internal harness to max wt limits per manufacturer's guidelines	9+ years Ht > or = 4'9"
Type of Seat	Infant only or rear-facing convertible	Convertible rear facing to max wt/ht limits per manufacturer's guidelines (30-35# and < 36") or Combination car seat	Forward facing or combination car seat with wt limits > 40# or belt positioning booster seat with top of ears below top of car seat	Lap shoulder seat belt with head against headrest, back against seatback, knees bent at edge of seat, lap/shoulder seat belt at the shoulder across center of chest
Seat position	Rear-facing seat in the back seat	Forward-facing seat in the back seat	Forward-facing seat in the back seat	Forward facing in the back seat
Always make sure:	Harness straps at or below shoulder level without slack harness clip at armpit level recline angle (~45°) per manufacturer's instructions	Harness straps should be at or above shoulders without slack and through top slots for forward-facing convertible seat Harness clip at armpit level	Harness straps should be at or above shoulders without slack Harness clip at armpit level Belt positioning booster seats must be used with both lap AND should belt	Shoulder belt crosses between the neck and arm. Lap belt crosses the lap/upper thighs
Special needs	Low weight (<5 pounds): ICN/infant carrier or car bed: Angel Ride for <9# and 20" Cosco Dream Ride for <20#	Spica or other cast: Without hip flexion: Modified EZ on Vest. If hip flexion: Spelcast, convertible, or combination car seat with <1" gap between cast and shell	Child needs to be lying across rear seat: Modified EZ on Vest. If hip flexion, use belt positioning booster or combination car seat if wt/ht within manufacturer's guidelines	Spica cast or unable to maintain trunk control: Belt Positioning Booster or Combination car seat if wt/ht within manufacturer's guidelines
Warning	Do not place infants in the front passenger seat of cars with air bags	All children age 12 and under should ride in the back seat	Make sure the lap belt fits low and tight to avoid abdominal injuries	Replace car seat if >6yrs old, is missing parts, has cracks, or has been in a severe crash*

*Replace a crashed car seat after a crash: vehicle not driveable from crash scene, occupant injuries, air bag deployment, and site of impact on same side of car as car seat. Contact car seat manufacturer for replacement policy.