

Child Passenger Safety Guide for Forward-Facing Car Seats



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Introduction

If you are looking for information about forward-facing car seats, you probably have several years of experience in parenting, grandparenting, or other caregiver roles. So, you recognize how important car seats are in keeping the child in the vehicle and reducing the crash forces to the body.

You have also learned that car seats can be complicated. Data (2022-2024) from a national child restraint check system showed a misuse rate of nearly 80% for forward-facing car seats. The good news is that these seat checks were done because over 50,000 parents or other caregivers wanted to make sure the children in their care were riding safely!

Going to a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) at a car seat inspection (fitting) station or a seat check event is a free, convenient way to make sure your child's seat is installed and set up correctly. Although many CPSTs are first responders, most police agencies, fire stations, etc. do not have a CPST on staff. Be sure you are meeting with a CPST by using one of these resources:

- ▶ Vermont Health Department [Be Seat Smart*](#) program
- ▶ New York's Governor's Traffic Safety Committee [Child Passenger Safety*](#) program
- ▶ Safe Kids Worldwide [National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training*](#) program (only use a few fields such as state and county for best results)
- ▶ Some car seat manufacturers offer virtual checks—this would be found on their websites
- ▶ The National Safety Council also offers [virtual appointments*](#)

* **Note:** See page 21 for URLs

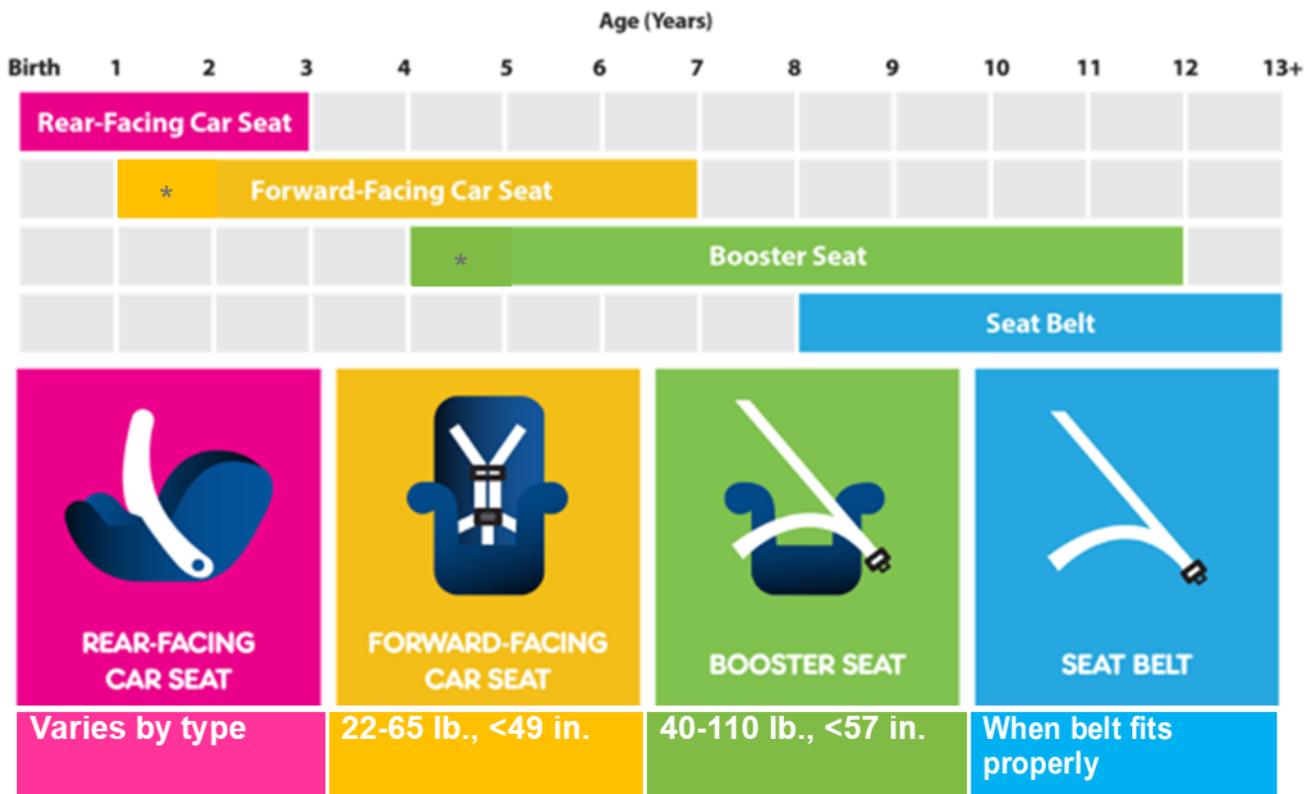


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Ranges are approximate. Some child restraints have different minimums or maximums.

* See [Forward-Facing Car Seats - Overview](#) (page 6) and [Child Passenger Safety Laws and Programs](#) (page 10) for laws and best practices.

Stages of Child Passenger Safety

There are four stages of Child Passenger Safety. This guidebook focuses on Forward-Facing Car Seats. It offers parents and other caregivers evidence-based recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and Child Passenger Safety Technicians. It is helpful if you avoid thinking of these stages as milestones; something to be rushed. To quote an AAP news article, “child passenger safety is one of the few areas where the next step is not ‘positive’ and where delaying transitions is best practice.”

Remember, buckling up is the best thing an adult can do to protect themselves. It also sets a great example for everyone!



Forward-Facing Car Seats

Key Messages

- ▶ Read the manual for your car seat and vehicle. Check for changes needed as your child grows.
- ▶ Register your seat with the manufacturer.
- ▶ Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for replacement or reuse after a crash.
- ▶ Make your vehicle smoke-free.
- ▶ Make sure the car seat is properly installed and your child is correctly harnessed.
- ▶ Avoid puffy coats for all vehicle occupants.
- ▶ Prevent vehicular heatstroke (page 15).
- ▶ Visit a CPST (page 2) to make sure your child’s seat is installed and set up correctly.
- ▶ Consider your child’s transportation safety wherever they are a passenger.
- ▶ Set the example—your child is a future driver!

The Best Car Seat

All child safety seats that can be legally used in the U.S. must meet rigorous federal safety standards. The best seat is one that:

- ▶ Fits your child
- ▶ Fits your vehicle
- ▶ You can use correctly every time

Other considerations include budget, lifestyle, and family needs, such as school drop off or transporting three passengers across a back seat. To help narrow down what might work for you and your family, check out the [AAP Car Safety Seat Product Listing](#) (See page 21 for URL). This resource covers car seats by stage and includes weight/height limits, certain features, and price.

Forward-Facing Car Seats - Overview

Recommendation: One they have outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their car seat, children should use a forward-facing car seat up to that seat’s weight or height limits. (AAP)

There are three common types of Forward-Facing car seats:

- ▶ **Convertible and all-in-one (multimode) seats:** These can be rear or forward-facing with a harness. A multimode seat can become a booster.
- ▶ **Combination seats:** These forward-facing only seats, sometimes called “harnessed boosters,” can be used with a harness or as a booster.

All forward-facing harnessed seats currently sold allow use until at least 40 pounds. Most, regardless of type, have a weight limit of 65 pounds, and height limit of 49 inches.

Less common forward-facing options include:

Integrated harnessed car seats: These are harnesses that are built into the vehicle seats. Check the vehicle owner’s manual for instructions and weight/height limits. As they are usually in older models, inspect the harness carefully before use.

RideSafer® Travel Vest (See page 21 for URL): This vest complies with the same federal safety standards as forward-facing harnessed seats. It is useful for travel (although it cannot be used on airplanes), fitting three across, or for a child who has outgrown all forward-facing car seats but is not ready for a booster. While the vest is marketed for children as young as 2, it allows more freedom of movement than a harnessed seat. Be judicious in selecting it for a younger child. Also beware of “lookalikes,” which are not **compliant** (page 9) with child passenger safety restraint regulations.



All-in-one (multimode) seat



Combination seat



RideSafer® Travel Vest

Features to consider

Ease of Use

NHTSA's Ease-of-Use ratings (See page 21 for URL) can help you evaluate the categories that are most important to you and select the seat that will serve you best. For example, if you move a seat from vehicle to vehicle often, look for seats that have a 4- or 5-star rating for "installation features." If more than one child will be using the seat, such as in a grandparent's vehicle, a high rating in "harnessing features" might be desirable.

A **No Rethread Harness** provides easy adjustment as a child grows or for multiple children's use.

A **Lock-off** helps achieve a good installation with less effort. This is especially helpful for older children who exceed the [weight limit for lower anchors](#) (page 12).

Fit in Vehicle

Putting three passengers in one row of a vehicle can be a challenge, even if not all occupants are in car seats or boosters. Car seat manufacturers have differing rules about whether seats can touch each other. The good news is many car seat manufacturers have recognized the need for slim (narrow) car seats. Check the manufacturer's website for accurate seat dimensions.

Some vehicles, even some advertised as "family friendly," can be problematic for car seats. For forward-facing seats, here are key vehicle considerations:

- ▶ **Number of LATCH seating positions:** You probably know that using lower anchors is a method of installing a child restraint. With a forward-facing child, an additional important safety step is using the tether. LATCH = **L**ower **A**nchors and **T**ethers for **C**hildren. Passenger vehicles made after September 2002, except for cars with convertible tops, are required to have at least two LATCH seating positions plus an additional tether anchor. Some vehicles, even minivans or 3-row SUVs only offer the minimum. Other models may have more, giving you more flexibility with rider locations.
- ▶ **Inflatable Seat Belts:** This type of belt has an airbag built into the belt and was used in some 2011-2020 vehicles. Not all car seat manufacturers permit use with an inflatable belt.
- ▶ **Vehicle seat shape and size:** A hump in the middle seat or large side seat bolsters can make it difficult to install car seats. Some seats also have large plastic hinges as part of the seat folding mechanism. They can interfere with a proper installation of a car seat. A shallow vehicle seat may cause a car seat to overhang the edge more than what is allowed by the car seat manufacturer.
- ▶ **Fixed headrests:** A headrest that is not removable can interfere with forward-facing car seats.

Vehicle selection is not part of CPST training. However, if you are making a choice among a few vehicle makes, models, and years, a CPST may be able to help you identify potential limitations related to Child Passenger Safety.

Crashes, Recalls, and Used Seats

Crashes

Most child restraint manufacturers require their seats to be replaced after any crash. A few companies, however, allow their seats to be reused after a minor crash. NHTSA defines a minor crash as one in which ALL the following apply:

- ▶ The vehicle was able to be driven away from the crash site.
- ▶ The vehicle door nearest the car seat was not damaged.
- ▶ None of the occupants in the vehicle sustained any injuries.
- ▶ The airbags (if present) did not deploy.
- ▶ There is no visible damage to the car seat.

Read your manual to find out if your seat needs to be replaced after a crash. Contact the manufacturer with questions.

Insurance policies vary and there are no requirements in either New York or Vermont for insurance to cover the cost of a replacement car seat. Often, insurance companies state they only replace child restraints if the crash was not minor or if the seat was occupied in the crash. Sometimes, a company may reconsider with a copy of the car seat manual or a letter from the child restraint manufacturer stating the seat must be replaced after any crash.

Recalls

It is important to register the seat with the manufacturer, on their website or by using the car seat registration card that comes with a new seat in case of a recall. Using the postage-paid card is easy—it already has the seat information (such as the model number and date of manufacture) Manufacturers are not permitted to use your contact information for purposes other than safety notifications.

Used Seats

When considering a second hand car seat, be sure you know its history. Was it ever in a crash? Is it expired, or close to expiring? How was it cared for and cleaned? (Improper cleaning can damage materials such as the harness webbing, buckle, cover, or shell.) Has it been recalled? Was it checked as baggage on a plane, which could cause unseen damage? Purchasing a used seat at a yard sale or from an on-line seller is different than accepting a hand-me-down from a trusted friend or family member.

Be sure to register the seat with the manufacturer. Go to the manufacturer's website and use the label to find the required information (model number, etc.).

Non-compliant Child Restraints

There has been a disturbing increase in the sale of non-compliant car seats to U.S. consumers in recent years. Some of these seats are designed and manufactured to the regulations of another country or region, but it is not legal for caregivers to use them in the U.S. Some devices are counterfeit, made of materials that lack the strength and integrity of the real thing and do not meet any safety standards. These are a safety risk in addition to not being legal to use. Be alert to these indicators that a seat may not be compliant:

- ▶ No mention of the U.S. Vehicle Safety Hotline or NHTSA.gov
- ▶ Labels with more pictograms than text
- ▶ No manufacturer's address/contact information
- ▶ No manual or registration card
- ▶ Spelling/grammatical errors in product literature
- ▶ Straps narrower than what you are used to seeing
- ▶ No chest clip—while U.S. federal motor vehicle safety standards do not require a chest clip, almost every compliant harnessed car seat on the market includes a chest clip
- ▶ A deal “too good to be true”
- ▶ Brand not listed on the AAP Car Safety Seat Product Listing (see page 21 for URL) - there can be new manufacturers in the U.S. market, so this in and of itself may not be a problem; it is just a potential “red flag,” especially if other warning signs are present

Child Passenger Safety Laws & Programs

Here are the highlights of the current **Child Passenger Safety laws** for Vermont and New York. For complete information, go to the state's Department of Motor Vehicles website. If you are transporting your child in another state or country, be sure to investigate those laws. Remember, laws are minimums. It is safest to follow best practices.

Also included is information about **low/no-cost child safety seat options**

Vermont

A child under age two must ride rear-facing and not in a front seat with an active airbag. A child under age five must ride in a harnessed car seat. A child under age eight must be in a booster if they are not riding in a harnessed car seat. A child under 13 must, if practical, ride in the back seat. A child under age 18 must use a seat belt if they are not using a child restraint.

Did you know? Vermont law bans using lighted tobacco products, e-cigarettes, and other nicotine delivering devices in motor vehicles occupied by a child under age eight. Although New York does not have a smoking law for riding with children, making your vehicle smoke-free helps protect everyone's health. Even tobacco smoke residue can be harmful.

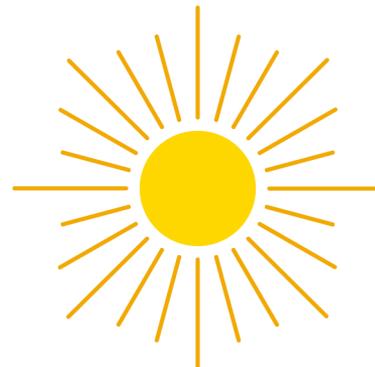
Vermont's **Be Seat Smart*** program allows for distribution of **free car seats** to WIC recipients after completing a child passenger safety seat inspection appointment. A voucher does not mean a child will automatically receive a seat. The CPST will determine if a child needs a seat. Families receiving Reach Up assistance or Dr. Dynasaur, and foster children may be eligible if in need.

New York

A child under age two must be rear-facing. A child under age four must ride in a car seat. Children must ride in a child restraint system until their eighth birthday. A child under age 16 must wear a seat belt.

New York does not prohibit a rear-facing child to ride in a front seat with an airbag, but acknowledges that it is dangerous.

New York does not have a statewide program for no/low cost seats. However, CPST's may know of community resources. Find a CPST at New York's **Child Passenger Safety*** program.





Using Forward-Facing Car Seats

Installation Basics

Remember, children under age 13 are safest in the back seat. Beyond that, the goal is everyone riding safely while meeting your family's needs. Consider these factors:

- ▶ Will the seat fit next to other riders (including occupants not in car seats)?
- ▶ Do you need riders in certain positions for school drop-off or to separate siblings who don't get along (like that ever happens!)?
- ▶ Does the vehicle seating position have a **tether anchor**? In a crash, the tether reduces forward movement of a forward-facing car seat and the child's head. This decreases forces on the neck and lessens the chance of impacting hard parts of the vehicle's interior.

Check your vehicle owner's manual for the location of tether anchors. In sedans, they are on the back shelf of the vehicle. In SUV's and vans, they may be in the ceiling, on vehicle seatbacks, on the floor, or somewhere else in the cargo area (but probably not a cargo hook). The manual will also tell you how to route the tether and if the headrest must be removed for tether use. Pickup trucks often have special tether anchor locations and more challenging routing requirements.

Since a tether is such an important safety device for a forward facing car seat, if a vehicle does not have tether anchors, a child should remain rear-facing until they are ready to use a booster seat. Luckily, federal safety standards have required cars and light trucks to have at least three tether anchors for over 25 years. In that time, many older vehicles have aged off the road.

Now, read your car seat manual, focusing on these points:

- ▶ **Recline angle:** If the car seat uses a recline angle indicator for forward-facing (some do, some don't), make sure you are parked on level ground, not on a hill or ramp. Check and adjust the recline now, and recheck after installation. Even if the seat does not have an indicator, some seats require a certain weight-based recline setting.
- ▶ **Overhang:** Most manufacturers allow their seat to hang off a little past the front edge, and possibly the side edges, of the vehicle seat. Overhang at the front of the vehicle seat will be less once installation is complete.
- ▶ **Weight limit for lower anchor use:** Because vehicle anchors have strength limitations, the car seat manual (and labels on the seat) will state not to use lower anchors for a child weighing over a certain amount. Remember, the seat belt and the lower anchors are two separate methods and usually cannot be used at the same time.

Tip! Get the tether from its storage location on your car seat and place it in the seat before starting your installation! Don't tighten it yet, as you will be installing and tightening the lower anchors or the seat belt first.



Seat Belt Installation

- ▶ **Store lower anchor connectors** (if they were in use): The car seat manual shows you how.
- ▶ **Choose the correct belt path:** For most convertible or multimode seats, place the seat belt in the belt path behind the child's back, not under their legs. Combination seats and some rotating car seats only have one belt path.
- ▶ **Lock the seat belt:** Lock the seat belt itself (since 1996, all US passenger vehicle seatbelts have been required to lock pre-crash) or use the built-in "lock-off" if the car seat has one. Read your manuals for the type of belts allowed for a car seats, and how the belts lock.
- ▶ **Remove all slack** from the seat belt.
- ▶ **Check for less than an inch of movement:** Grab the seat at the belt path. Try to move it back and forth and front to back, using moderate force – like a firm handshake. If you cannot get a tight installation, try another method or another seating position in the back seat.
- ▶ **Tighten the tether:** The tether is appropriately tight when all slack has been removed and there is tension on the strap. It is not necessary to use a lot of force when tightening. If you do, you may have trouble removing the tether later. Use a rubber band, hair tie, or the strap provided with the child restraint to secure the loose end of the tether.

Lower Anchor Installation

- ▶ **Consider the spacing:** Review your vehicle owner's manual for anchor locations. Check the vehicle and car seat manual to determine if you are allowed to "borrow" the inner anchors from the window seats.
- ▶ **Choose the correct belt path:** See "Seat Belt Installation," above for information about belt paths. Note that seats with rigid lower anchors do not have a belt path for the anchor connectors.
- ▶ **Remove all slack** from the lower anchor belt.
- ▶ **Check for less than an inch of movement** as described in "Seat Belt Installation," above.
- ▶ **Tighten the tether** as described in "Seat Belt Installation," above.

Important reminder: If you have a rotating car seat, do not leave it in an unlocked (side facing) position, even when it is not occupied.

Harnessing Basics



Follow the photo to make sure your forward-facing child is harnessed properly Here are some additional reminders and suggestions:

- ▶ After dressing them in light layers (no puffy coats, snowsuits, or bulky clothes, keep kids warm by putting their coat on backwards over the snug harness.
- ▶ If your child has back or leg pain, provide something light, like a Styrofoam cooler, rolled up sleeping back, or inflatable footrest, to rest their feet on. They should not prop their feet on the vehicle seat in front of them.
- ▶ Consider allowing older children to unbuckle when you tell them it is safe to do so. With smaller fingers, a tool for unbuckling a seat might be helpful. This is also great for caregivers with hand pain or hand dexterity challenges. Bonus: it also helps prevent broken fingernails!

Review [How to Install a Combination Car Seat](#) (See page 21 for URL) for more information about installation and harnessing, There is a tab with a video for installing with a seat belt and tether, and another tab with a video for installing with lower anchors and tether. Both videos include information about harnessing. Installation and harnessing will be the same for a forward-facing convertible or all-in-one, other than identifying the correct belt path first!

Motion Sickness

The Car Seat Lady, an organization run by a pediatrician and CPST, is a reputable resource. Their [Motion Sickness*](#) webpage contains good information to guide parents with a child who is experiencing motion sickness.

Heatstroke Prevention

- ▶ There is no safe amount of time to leave a child (or pet or vulnerable adult) alone in a vehicle. Cars can heat up to dangerous levels quickly, even with the windows open or when parked in the shade. For example, on an 80-degree day, the temperature inside a vehicle can be over 100 degrees after just 15 minutes. If you don't have anyone to watch your child, consider curbside pickup or home delivery of medication, groceries, or food, or take your child inside with you.
- ▶ Lock your vehicle when it is parked and keep key fobs out of reach of children. Remind them to stay out of parked cars.
- ▶ Loving and capable caregivers can make a mistake, especially when tired, distracted, or out of their routine. Create reminders. Put your purse, cell phone, work badge, etc. the back seat. Or place your child's backpack or one of their stuffed animals in the front seat where you can see it easily.
- ▶ Get into the habit of checking the back seat. Most newer vehicles have reminders about doing this—if your vehicle has this technology, do not disable it.
- ▶ Ask your childcare provider to call you if your child does not arrive as expected.
- ▶ Check in with another caregiver to confirm daycare drop off.
- ▶ If you see a child alone in a car, call 911. Fast action can save a life. If a child is missing, check nearby pools and open water first, then vehicles, including trunks.

A free e-Learning course, [Children in Hot Cars*](#), is available from the National Safety Council.

*** Note:** See page 21 for URLs

Escaping Behaviors

It is not uncommon for young children to try to get out of their car seat. They are becoming more independent and like to try new things. Pushing buttons (including yours!) seems fun. While you might be tempted to make the harness even snugger, this might increase the child's desire to "escape." Start with checking the harness fit (at or above the shoulders, passes the pinch test but is not tighter than that) and experiment with recline angles if the seat allows more than one recline setting. Remember, you can give the child something to rest their legs on. Here are a few more ideas to help with your little "escape artist."

- ▶ Provide positive reinforcement for staying buckled, such as a sticker or special treat.
- ▶ A soft toy or book can provide a distraction, keeping busy hands away from buckles and clips.
- ▶ A social story with simple pictures and sentences emphasizing safety may be a great tool.
- ▶ Give your child the role of "car monitor." They get to make sure everyone stays buckled up.
- ▶ If you are going on a fun outing, turn around and go home if the child unbuckles.
- ▶ While it can be very scary to have a child unbuckling themselves in a moving car, do not try to modify the car seat yourself. If practice and consistent repetition to change escaping behaviors doesn't seem to be working, get help from a CPST or the car seat manufacturer.



Transportation of Children with Special Healthcare Needs

Children with health-related transportation needs can often use a conventional child restraint. Newer features have increased the options for using standard restraints for children with medical conditions. Many car seats have adjustments to assist in positioning and can harness up to 65 lbs. (approximately a 50th percentile 8 year old). The [AAP Car Safety Seat Product Listing*](#) includes information about weight and height limits for each car seat listed.

If a conventional restraint cannot be used, adaptive child restraints are available. These devices come from durable medical equipment providers or directly from a manufacturer. The process to obtain an adaptive restraint can be complicated, lengthy, and expensive, and should involve you and your child's clinical team.

Health conditions that might require an adaptive restraint for young child include:

- ▶ Low muscle tone
- ▶ Casts or braces
- ▶ Behaviors such as impulsiveness, distractibility, and short attention span - see Escaping Behaviors on the previous page for ideas to help children occupied and contained

Some CPSTs have received additional training in "Safe Travel for All Children." They are identified on the Safe Kids Worldwide U.S. National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program* website in the Extra Training field. Some of these technicians also do virtual appointments.

Other resources include the [Indiana University School of Medicine's Adaptive Transportation*](#) pages and this short ["Buckle Up for Life - Special Needs" video*](#) from Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Toyota.

* **Note:** See page 21 for URLs

Child Passenger Safety in Other Modes of Transportation

School Buses

Did you know that the school bus is one of the safest vehicles on the road? Less than 1% of all traffic fatalities involve children on school transportation vehicles, according to NHTSA.

Large buses are designed to be highly visible and protect school children and older occupants by closely-spaced seats with energy-absorbing seat backs. This is called “compartmentalization.” Although NHTSA does not require seat belts on large buses, some states, including New York, do. If your child takes a bus that has seat belts, best practice is to use them. Small buses, while still highly visible, are more like passenger vehicles. They must be equipped with seat belts to provide protection for all occupants.

Since children are more at risk getting on and off the bus, make sure everyone knows and follows these bus safety tips:

- ▶ Wait at least ten feet (five giant steps) from the curb or roadway edge.
- ▶ Never walk behind the bus. Walk at least ten feet in front of it while making eye contact with the bus driver and following their instructions.
- ▶ Look left, right, and left again before crossing any lanes of traffic.



Air Travel

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recommends that children be securely fastened in child restraints when flying. Airlines operating in the U.S. must allow a child to use an FAA-approved car seat when a ticketed seat has been purchased and the child is within the limits for the car seat. There must be a label on the car seat stating, “This restraint is certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft.” Be sure you know where this label is, as many airlines require staff to check for it. A multimode or combination car seat is not FAA-approved in booster mode but most are approved for harness mode. For a flight on a non-U.S. carrier, check that airline’s policies. Unfortunately, some non-U.S. carriers do not allow the use of car seats.

If booking premium seating, check airline policies for car seats in various classes of service and the features of the aircraft seats. For example, some premium seats have inflatable seatbelts (many car seats cannot be installed with an inflatable belt) or are angled or rearward facing. Bulkhead seats have fixed armrests, often too narrow for a car seat. A car seat cannot be in an exit row and some airlines do not allow car seats in one or more rows in front of or behind an exit row. While the airline should re-seat you and your child, there’s no sense in paying extra for a premium seat you can’t use!

Checking a car seat as baggage, including gate checking, is risky. The seat may arrive damaged or not at all! Renting a car seat is also not a good idea. You do not know its history and the seat may not be appropriate for your child.

The FAA offers more safety tips for [Flying With Children](#) (See page 21 for URL).



Note: If you are traveling outside the U.S. or Canada, vehicles may not have locking seat belts. Car seats can be installed with lower anchors (if present and if the child is within the weight limit for use), by using the car seat’s lockoff (if equipped), or with a locking clip (see photo). This device holds a lap/shoulder belt at a fixed length for car seat installation when a vehicle belt does not lock. Do not purchase a generic locking clip; either get one from the manufacturer or a CPST. They often have a “stash” from days when more U.S. vehicle seat belts did not lock. Ask a CPST if you need to learn how to use a locking clip.

Recreational Vehicles

You might be surprised to learn that motorized Recreational Vehicle (RV) cabins are exempt from federal seat belt requirements for rear occupants and are not required to be crash tested. Also, an RV is full of equipment and storage materials that can become projectiles during a collision. Car seats must be installed on a forward-facing vehicle seat but not all RV seats face the front.

The best way to travel with children and an RV is to choose a non-motorized, towable camper. This way, your children can be properly restrained in the vehicle that is pulling the RV. Another option is to drive children in a separate vehicle.

The Car Seat Lady, an organization run by a pediatrician and CPST, is a reputable resource, has an article about [traveling in an RV with children](#) (See page 21 for URL).



from days when more U.S. vehicle seat belts did not lock. Ask a CPST if you need to learn how to use a locking clip.

Alternative Vehicles

Car seats are designed for vehicles meeting federal motor vehicle safety standard definitions of passenger car and multipurpose passenger vehicle. While some other modes of transportation, such as low-speed vehicles, golf carts, side-by-sides, ATV's, and snowmobiles, meet certain safety standards, they are not the same standards as passenger cars or multipurpose passenger vehicles. Therefore, car seats may not perform as designed. Most car seat manufacturers prohibit use of car seats in these types of vehicles. Refer to the individual child restraint manufacturer for more information.

The AAP recommends that children younger than sixteen should not ride as a passenger on an ATV and that children under the age of six should never ride on snowmobiles.

Resources

Here are Child Passenger Safety (CPS) resources included this guide, plus a few additional ones on CPS and other child safety/health topics. A URL is provided for hardcopy users.

- ▶ Vermont Department of Health Be Seat Smart - beseatsmart.org
- ▶ New York Traffic Safety Committee CPS - trafficsafety.ny.gov/child-passenger-safety
- ▶ Safe Kids Worldwide National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program - cert.safekids.org
(click on Find a Tech. For a tech trained in transportation of children with special healthcare needs, choose “Safe Travel for All Children” in the special training field)
- ▶ National Safety Council virtual seat checks - carseateducation.org/caregiver-resources
- ▶ AAP Car Safety Seat Product Listing - downloads.aap.org/HC/carseats/ALL-combined-list-2025.pdf
- ▶ Ride Safer Travel Vest - shop.saferide4kids.com/products/ridesafer-travel-vest
- ▶ Ease of Use Ratings - nhtsa.gov/campaign/right-seat
- ▶ Installation & harnessing videos - nhtsa.gov/car-seats-and-booster-seats/how-install-combination-car-seat-forward-facing
- ▶ Motion Sickness - thecarseatlady.com/motion-sickness-puking-poncho/
- ▶ “Children in Hot Cars” eLearning - carseateducation.org/product/kids-in-hot-cars
- ▶ Adaptive Transportation - preventinjury.medicine.iu.edu/adaptive-transportation
- ▶ “Buckle Up for Life - Special Needs” video - youtube.com/watch?v=-TsT5wAYldg
- ▶ Flying with Children - faa.gov/travelers/fly_children
- ▶ Traveling in an RV with Children - thecarseatlady.com/rvtravel/
- ▶ UVM Medical Center Car Seat Safety - uvmhealth.org/carseats
- ▶ [AAP Car Seat Safety Information for Families](http://AAP.org) - go to healthychildren.org; search “car seats”
- ▶ NHTSA Car Seats and Booster Seats - nhtsa.gov/vehicle-safety/car-seats-and-booster-seats
- ▶ Safe Kids Vermont website - uvmhealth.org/safekidsvt - check out the “From Toddlers to Teens” booklet!
- ▶ Safe Kids Vermont Facebook page - facebook.com/SafeKidsVT

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