



TALK LINE
FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

CAR SEAT SAFETY GUIDELINES

Car accidents continue to be the leading cause of death for children 4 and older. But child safety seats reduce the risk of death by 28% and the risk of injury by over 70%. Help your child stay safe by following these guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics:



- Ensure car seats are installed properly.
 - Make sure a car seat cannot be moved more than 1-inch from side to side or front to back when grasped at the bottom of the seat near the seat belt.
 - Seek help installing car seats from the store where you purchased the car seat or your local police station.
- Keep infants and toddlers in rear-facing car seats until a child is 2 years old or reaches the manufacturer's weight or height limit for the car seat.
- Use a forward-facing car seat for most children 2 to 4 years old.
- Use a belt-positioning booster seat for children over 4 years old until they have reached 4 feet 9 inches tall and are between 8 and 12 years of age.
- Ensure that all children—who have outgrown a booster seat—use lap-shoulder seat belts.
- Don't allow children under 13 years old to ride in the front seat.
- Delay car and booster seat transitions until your child has fully reached the maximum height or weight limit for that seat.

More detailed information is available at:

[Car Seats Policy](#)

[Car Seat Technical Report](#)

A car seat guide for parents is available [right here](#).