

Child Car Seats

Birth to One Year

Types of rear-facing child car seats



Infant seat

- Is used rear-facing only
- Has weight limits that vary depending on the make and model – some go up to 16 kg (35 lb.)
- Has harness straps to secure the child



Infant/child seat (Convertible)

- Can be used rear-facing and then converted to forward-facing when the child is the appropriate age and weight
- Has rear-facing weight limits that vary depending on the make and model – some go up to 20.45 kg (45 lb.)
- Has harness straps to secure the child



Infant/child/booster seat (Three-In-One)

- Can be used rear- or forward-facing with harness straps or as a booster seat with a seat belt
- Has rear-facing weight limits that vary depending on the make and model – some go up to 22.7 kg (50 lb.)
- Has harness straps to secure the child

Rear-facing child car seats must be used until the child is at least one year old AND weighs at least 10 kg (22 lb.).

It is recommended that children remain rear-facing as long as possible within the manufacturer's rear-facing weight limit.

Always refer to manufacturer's instructions.

Installation and harnessing checklist

- I have read the child car seat instructions and the child seat section of the vehicle owner's manual.
- I have not used bunting bags or bulky clothing.
- Harness straps are not twisted.
- Harness straps are below the child's shoulder level.
- Child seat faces rear of the vehicle.
- Child seat is NOT positioned in front of an active air bag.
- Seat belt or Universal Anchorage System (UAS) is in the correct belt path for rear-facing.
- Child seat is secured tightly with no more than 2.5cm (1") of movement from side to side and front to back at the belt path.
- Child seat is reclined to a 45 degree angle.
- A locking clip is used if required.
- Harness is snug so that no more than one finger can fit between the harness and the child's collarbone.
- Chest clip is at armpit level.
- Child is secured in the harness **before** blankets are put over him or her. Never place anything between your child and the child car seat's padding.
- If needed, firmly rolled receiving blankets are placed on each side of the infant's head for support.
- Check for correct handle position on infant seat.



Infant seat placed rear-facing



Harness is adjusted correctly



Firmly rolled receiving blankets support the infant's head

Safety Guidelines

- Never place a rear-facing car seat in front of an active airbag.
- Plan frequent stops when going on long road trips.
- Only use the infant seat for travel in a car, van, or truck.
- When shopping or going for walks, take your baby out of the infant seat and use a stroller or carrying device to transport your baby.
- Never use an infant car seat as a crib.
- Child seats purchased in other countries are not legal for use in Canada.
- Register your child seat with the manufacturer in case of a safety recall.
- When installing the seat, always follow the child car seat manufacturer's instructions and read your vehicle owner's manual.

For more information contact BCAA:

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