

Did you know?

Motor vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death among children in the United States.

Every 32 seconds in 2018, one child under the age of 13 in a passenger vehicle was involved in a crash.

In 2018, approximately 33% of children under 13 killed in passenger vehicles were not restrained in car seats, booster seats, or seat belts.

In 2017, among children under 5, car seats saved an estimated 312 lives.

****All information provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

Get your car seat inspected today!

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) primary goal for child passenger safety is to make sure all parents and caregivers are correctly using the right car seats (rear-facing car seats, forward-facing car seats, and/or booster seats) or seat belts for their children's ages and sizes.

The Newton Police Department is committed to assisting NHTSA with this goal. The Newton Police Department has CPS Technicians available to inspect your car seat to make sure it is installed correctly. Inspections are done by appointment only.

This is a **FREE** service!

Call or e-mail us to schedule a car seat inspection! A CPS Technician will contact you as soon as they receive your request.

Newton Police Department



Newton Police Department Traffic Bureau

1321 Washington Street
Newton, Ma. 02465

Voicemail: 617-796-2112

E-mail: Trafficbureau@newtonma.gov

Which Car Seat Is Right For My Child?



Rear Facing Car Seat Birth to 12 Months

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats. Infant-only car seats can only be used rear-facing. Convertible and all-in-one car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

Rear Facing Car Seat 1 to 3 Years

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.



Forward Facing Car Seat 1 to 3 Years

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the **best** way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer.

Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

Forward Facing Car Seat 4 to 7 Years

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.



Booster Seat 4 to 7 Years

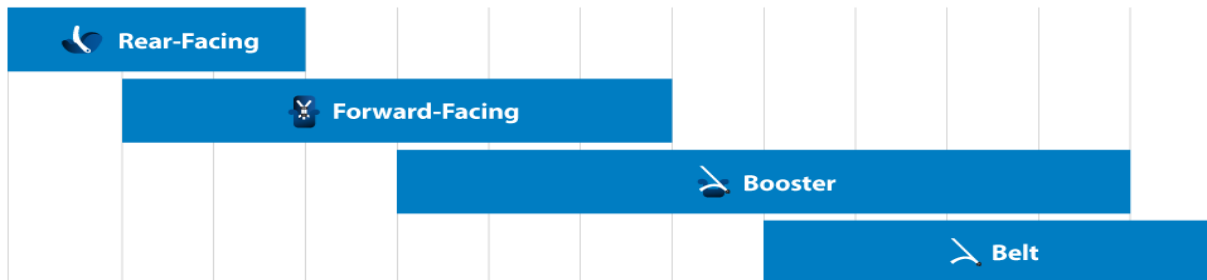
Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.



Seat Belt 8 to 12 Years

A seat belt should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.

Birth 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13+



A **rear-facing car seat** is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.

A **forward facing car seat** has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.

A **booster seat** positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger part of your child's body.