

Child Car Seats: Birth to One Year

Rear-facing child car seats must be used until the child is at least one year old AND weighs at least 9 kg (20 lb.).

It is recommended that children stay rear-facing longer if allowed by the child car seat manufacturer's weight limit.

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 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 18 kg (40 lb.)
- Has harness straps to secure the child

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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 by a vehicle seat belt/UAS.
- Child seat is reclined to a 45 degree angle.
- A locking clip is used if required.
- Harness is snug so that no more than two fingers 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, rolled receiving blankets are placed on each side of the infant's head for support.



Infant seat placed rear-facing



Harness is adjusted correctly



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.**
- **When installing the seat, always follow the child car seat manufacturer's instructions and read your own vehicle owner's manual.**

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