

Forward-Facing



When children outgrow the rear-facing car seat, secure them in a forward-facing child safety seat with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed by the manufacturer of the car seat. All children younger than age 13 should ride in a back seat.

Here's What to Do:

- ◆ Use a forward-facing car seat with a harness as long as possible up to the upper weight or height limits for the harness.
- ◆ Secure the car seat with the seat belt or LATCH system in the back seat.
- ◆ Use the tether when securing a forward-facing car seat.



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Forward-Facing car seats reduce the risk of injury for children by 71% compared to children using the seat belt only.

Forward-Facing Checklist:

- Child's ears should not be above the top of the shell of the car seat.
- Harness straps are positioned **at or above the shoulder.**
- Harness straps lay flat and fit snugly on the child with the harness retainer clip at armpit level.
- Seat belt or lower anchors in the correct belt path are locked and tight with less than one-inch of side-to-side movement when pulled at the belt path.
- Tether should be used following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Read and follow the car seat manufacturer's instructions to determine the appropriate upright or semi-upright angle when installing the car seat in the forward-facing position.

Here's Why:

- ◆ The car seat harness:
 - Spreads the crash forces over the strong parts of the child's body.
 - Holds the child in the car and keeps the body positioned in a crash.
- ◆ The tether limits head injuries by reducing movement in a crash.

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Right Seat + Right Time + Right Use = Reducing Car Crash Injury.