

# 2023 PA TIPP Car Seat Summary Sheet for Loan Programs

## Safety 1st and Cosco Car Seats

Summary sheets contain a brief overview on the use of the car seats currently provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for community loan programs. Additional information is provided by the PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project to reflect the best practice recommendations on the selection and use of the car seats. The summary sheets are a quick reference for loan program coordinators and **are not meant to be a substitute for reading the car seat manufacturer's instructions or providing one-on-one education for parents and caregivers.**



**In preparation for each car seat appointment, use the summary sheet and ensure the car seat is appropriate for the child. Check the following when selecting and loaning a car seat:**

- ◆ Ensure the car seat meets the weight, height, age and developmental requirements of the child.
- ◆ Review the car seat manufacturer's instructions.
- ◆ Verify the car seat has not met the car seat manufacturer's expiration date.
- ◆ Provide the car seat manufacturer's instructions with each car seat that is loaned.
- ◆ Instruct the Parent or Caregiver to read the car seat instructions and their vehicle owner's manual.
- ◆ Refer the Parent or Caregiver to local car seat inspection stations in your area.

### AAP Best Practice Recommendations for Car Seat Use

- ◆ All infants and toddlers should ride in a **rear-facing car seat** as long as possible, until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat's manufacturer.
- ◆ All children who have outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their car seat, should use a **forward-facing child safety seat** with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed by their child safety seat's manufacturer.
- ◆ All children whose weight or height is above the forward-facing limit for their car seat should use a **belt-positioning booster seat** until the vehicle lap and shoulder seat belt fits properly, typically when they have reached 4 feet 9 inches in height and are between 8 and 12 years of age.
- ◆ When children are old enough and large enough to use the **vehicle seat belt** alone, they should use a lap and shoulder seat belts for optimal protection.
- ◆ All children younger than 13 years should be restrained in the **rear seats** of vehicles for optimal protection.



### Summary of Pennsylvania's Child Passenger Occupant Protection Law

(Act 53, 1983 / Act 22, 1993 / Act 229, 2002 / Act 81, 2011 / Act 43, 2016)

All drivers operating a passenger car, Class I and Class II truck, classic motor vehicle, antique motor vehicle or motor home shall securely fasten infants and children under 8 years of age in an approved child restraint/booster when the child is riding anywhere in the motor vehicle, including the cargo area. The car seat/booster seat may be in any seating position in the vehicle that is equipped with a seat belt. (However, for maximum protection, a back seat is preferable.)

- ◆ All drivers transporting children under 4 years of age are responsible to securely restrain those children in an approved child passenger restraint system. (Primary Law)
  - ◆ A child younger than two years of age shall be secured in a rear-facing child passenger restraint system, to be used until the child outgrows the maximum weight and height limits designated by the car seat manufacturer. (Primary Law)
- ◆ All drivers transporting children 4 years of age or older but under 8 years of age are responsible to securely restrain those children in a seat belt system and an appropriately fitting child booster seat. (Primary Law)
- ◆ All drivers transporting children 8 years of age but under 18 years of age are responsible to securely restrain those children in a properly adjusted seat belt system. (Primary Law)

# Five Steps to Achieve Correct Car Seat Use

## SELECTION

Select a car seat, belt-positioning booster seat, or seat belt that is in good condition (not been in a crash, not expired or recalled, no labels missing) and appropriate for the child's age, height, weight, and development level.



**Why:** Car seats and booster seats are the protection systems for passengers who are too small to get the full safety benefits from adult seat belts.

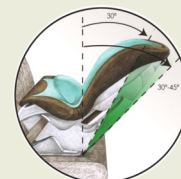
Car seats and booster seats:

- ◆ Provide small children with the same protection that adults get from seat belts and other safety equipment built into the vehicle.
- ◆ Are designed to keep children within the vehicle and close to their original seating position.
- ◆ Prevent contact with interior surfaces of the vehicle and other occupants.
- ◆ Provide "ride-down" by gradually decelerating / slowing the child as the vehicle deforms / crushes and absorbs energy from the crash forces.

## DIRECTION

Place the car seat in the correct direction for the age, height, weight, and developmental level of the child.

**Why:** Many children are moved to the next car seat stage before they are truly ready, which puts them at greater risk for injury in a crash. Children younger than 2 years are better protected by riding rear-facing to the height and weight limits of their convertible car seat.



- ◆ The American Academy of Pediatrics advises that children ride **rear-facing for as long as possible**, protecting their fragile spinal cords that are still developing. NHTSA suggests that children ride rear-facing to the upper limits of their car seat. Convertible car seats with higher rear-facing weight and height limits allow children to ride rear-facing beyond the age of 2.
- ◆ Children are also being moved prematurely from harnessed car seats into booster seats, as well as from booster seats into adult seat belts, which puts them at greater risk for injury if the seat belt does not fit them correctly.

## LOCATION

Place the car seat or booster seat in an appropriate location in the vehicle.

**Why:** The safest place for children under the age of 13 to ride is the back seat. Children are better protected from head-on collisions. Frontal crashes are most common.



- ◆ The back seat eliminates the risk of being injured by the passenger-side front air bag, which is designed to provide additional protection for adults who are properly secured with the seat belt. Read the vehicle owner's manual to locate the air bags in your vehicle. **NEVER place a rear-facing car seat in front of an active passenger-side front air bag.**
- ◆ Consider the occupant protection needs of all passengers when installing a car seat. Select a seating position that will provide an optimal installation for the car seat. The middle seat in the back is often referred to as the "best seating location" for car seats because of the protection from side impact crashes, but any back vehicle seat is preferable to a front seat.
- ◆ Consider family needs. If parking on a busy street, place the child's car seat on the curb side for optimal protection when entering and exiting the vehicle. **NEVER leave children alone in the car, not even for a minute.**

## INSTALLATION

Install the car seat or booster seat in the vehicle correctly.

**Why:** It is estimated that 46 percent of car seats on United States roadways are installed incorrectly (NCRUSS, 2015). A car seat that is incorrectly installed will not provide optimal protection in a crash situation, and may put the child's safety at risk.

- ◆ Car seats can be installed with either the seat belt or the lower anchors, and forward-facing seats should always utilize the tether.
- ◆ Lower anchors are standard in vehicles manufactured after 2002, and are located in the bight (where the vehicle seat and back meet) of the vehicle seat. Current car seats come equipped with lower anchor connectors, which when threaded through the correct belt path and securely fastened onto the lower anchors create a secure installation for a car seat.
- ◆ While the seat belt and lower anchor systems are different, they are equally safe. Follow the car seat instructions and vehicle manual guidance to secure the car seat. Use the seat belt or lower anchors – but NOT both (unless specifically approved by the car seat and vehicle manufacturer).

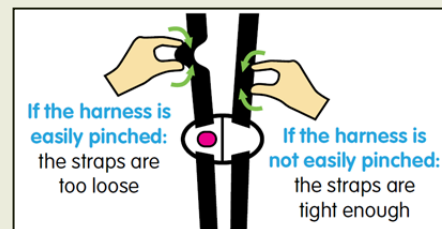


## HARNESSING

Secure the child properly in the car seat, booster seat, or seat belt.

**Why:** Correct harnessing or seat belt fit ensures the child is securely positioned in the car seat, booster seat, or vehicle seat, and able to take advantage of the crash protection that the harness or seat belt provides.

- ◆ The harness holds the child down low in the car seat. The child secured correctly will not slide up and out of the car seat in a crash. Incorrect harnessing—often a loose harness or a retainer clip that is too low—is an extremely common misuse.
  - ◆ **Rear-Facing:** The harness is placed **AT or BELOW** the child's shoulders.
  - ◆ **Forward-Facing:** The harness is placed **AT or ABOVE** the child's shoulders.
- ◆ Correct seat belt fit, for children in booster seats and for children transitioning out of boosters into a seat belt is very important.

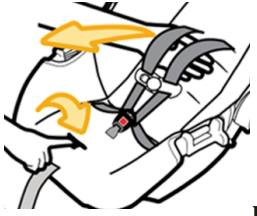




# Safety 1<sup>st</sup> onBoard 35 LT Rear-Facing Only

(Infant Car Seat) 4 - 35 lbs. and 32" or less

The top of the child's head must be at least 1-inch below the top of the child restraint seat back.



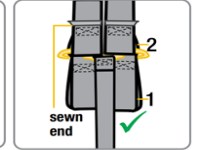
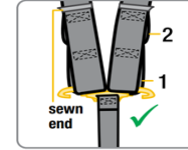
**Harness Release Button:** To loosen the harness straps, press the harness release lever, located through an opening in the car seat pad, while pulling out on the harness straps.

**Harness Adjustment Strap:** The harness adjustment strap is the webbing below the release button. Pull the harness adjustment strap straight out to snugly tighten the harness.

**Harness Strap Position:** Place harness at or below the child's shoulders.

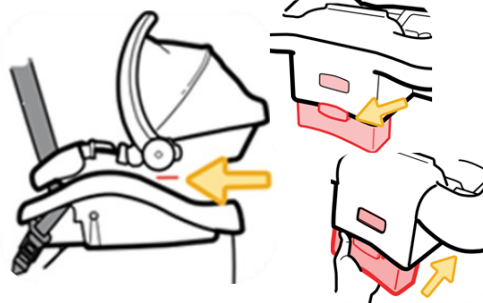


**Adjusting Harness Strap Length:** Connect the harness to the splitter plate. Do not twist the harness straps. The harness strap loops must be threaded completely on both sides of the splitter plate. There are two positions on the harness straps. The bottom loop (loop 1) will be used for most children. If the harness cannot be snugly tightened for a small infant, use the upper loop (loop 2) to adjust the harness strap length.



**Adjustable Crotch Strap:** Choose the buckle slot closest to the child, but not underneath or behind the child. There are three crotch strap positions. To change the buckle position, rotate the metal retainer on the back of the car seat and slide through the seat shell and pad. Insert the buckle's retainer into the appropriate slot closest to the child and slide through the car seat pad and shell. Pull up on the buckle to make sure the buckle is secure.

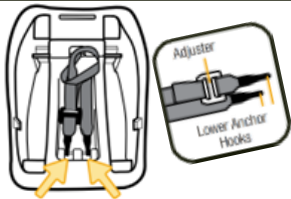
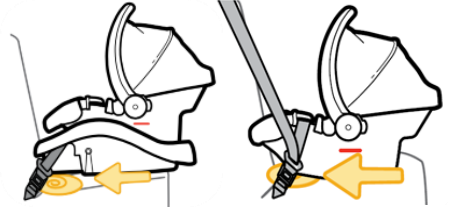
**Adjusting the Buckle Strap Length:** Place the buckle in Slot 1. Turn over the car seat and pull the buckle's metal retainer away from the bottom of the car seat and slide through the middle slot. Lay the metal retainer flat against the inside of the car seat shell, under the car seat pad.



**Level Indicator:** Park on level ground. Check the level line. Adjust the leveling foot on the base for correct rear-facing angle for the child. To adjust the base, push in on the leveling foot release button.

**Carry Handle:** The carry handle must be upright and locked when installed in the vehicle.

If necessary, place a tightly rolled towel or pool noodle under the front of the car seat to have a correct recline.



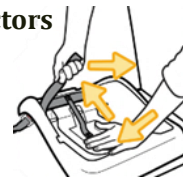
Remove Lower Anchor Belt from storage attachment



Route Lower Anchor webbing through the belt path in the base



Attach Lower Anchor Hooks to vehicle lower anchors



Firmly push the base down and back and tighten the webbing



Check for tightness, less than 1-inch of movement when pulled at the belt path

## Vehicle Seat Belt with Base



Route Vehicle Seat Belt through the belt path in the base



Buckle and firmly push the base down and back and tighten the seat belt



Check for tightness, less than 1-inch of movement when pulled at the belt path

## Vehicle Seat Belt with Carrier



Route Vehicle Seat Belt through the belt path in the carrier shell. Buckle and tighten the seat belt



Check for tightness, less than 1-inch of movement when pulled at the belt path

## TIP!



### Expiration Date

On the side of the car seat there is a date of manufacture label. Do not use this car seat more than 8 years after the date of manufacture.

**Head Pillow:** The head pillow must be used with the body pillow. The bottom of the head pillow is placed behind the body pillow. To remove the head pillow, slide up from the body pillow.



**Body Pillow:** To remove the body pillow, unbuckle the harness. Pull the buckle through the slot in the body pillow and slide out from behind the harness straps.



# Cosco MightyFit 65 Convertible

Rear-Facing 5—40 lbs. and 19—40"

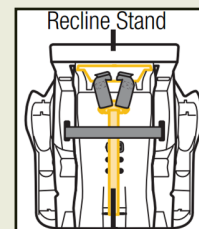
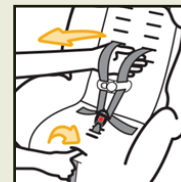
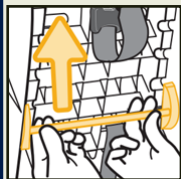
The top of the child's head is 1-inch below to top of the child restraints seat back.  
Forward-Facing 22-65 lbs. 29-49"; Child is at least one year old.

Review the Best Practice Recommendations of American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for remaining Rear-Facing as long as possible.

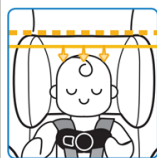


## Changing Harness and Headrest Height:

1. Squeeze the headrest adjustment bar on the back of the seat towards you to adjust the headrest to the highest position. Make sure it locks into place and above the harness strap.
  2. Loosen the harness straps by pushing down on harness release lever located through opening in pad while pulling out on the harness straps.
  3. Pull the harness straps out of the shoulder harness slots and rethread the harness straps into the correct shoulder harness slots for the child.
- Note: Harness strap loop ends must go through the recline stand and the harness adjustment strap must lie under the harness strap on the bottom of the car seat as shown.



## Rear-Facing



**Head Position:** The top of the child's head must be at least 1-inch below the top of the car seat's headrest.



**Harness Strap Position:** The harness strap must be **at or slightly below** the shoulders.

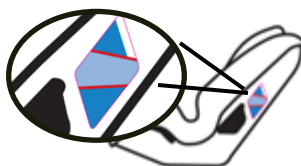


Do not use 3rd slot in Rear-Facing mode.

**Buckle Position:** Buckle must be used in either the 1st or 2nd slot that is closest to the child. The buckle should not be underneath or behind your child.

## Reclined Mode:

- For children between 5-22 lbs., the bottom level line on the shell must be parallel with the ground.
- For children 22-40 lbs. who can sit up unassisted, rotate the child restraint between the 2 level lines.

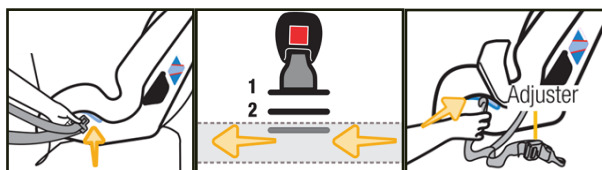


**Recline:** Pull down to unlock recline stand and fold under seat.

## Installation: Place the rear-facing car seat in a back seat.

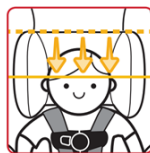


Use the rear-facing belt path. Check the recline. If needed, place a tightly rolled towel or pool noodle under the front of the child restraint to help achieve the correct recline.



- Thread the vehicle seat belt or lower anchor hook through the rear-facing belt path. The webbing is routed under the car seat pad and in front of the crotch buckle.
- Buckle the seat belt or attach the lower anchor connectors.
- Tighten the car seat by firmly pushing down and back towards the vehicle seat while pulling the shoulder belt or the free end of the lower anchor.
- Check for tightness, less than 1-inch of movement when pulled at the belt path.

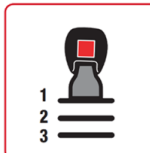
## Forward-Facing



**Head Position:** The top of the child's ears must be below the top of the car seat's headrest.



**Harness Strap Position:** The harness strap must be **at or slightly above** the shoulders.

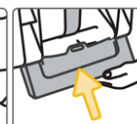


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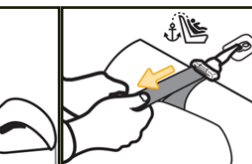
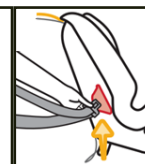
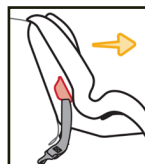
**Buckle Position:** Buckle can be used in any slot that is closest to the child. The buckle should not be underneath or behind your child.

## Upright Mode:

Pull recline stand out from under seat and push up to lock in place.



Use the forward facing belt path. Position the car seat flush against vehicle seat and loosely attach the tether hook to the vehicle tether anchor.



- Thread the vehicle seat belt or lower anchor hook through the forward-facing belt path.
- Buckle the seat belt or attach the lower anchor connectors.
- Tighten the car seat by firmly pushing down and back towards the vehicle seat while pulling the shoulder belt or the free end of the lower anchor.
- Tighten the tether by pushing firmly on the back of the car seat and pulling the free end of the tether strap to remove all slack in the webbing.
- Check for tightness, less than 1-inch of movement when pulled at the belt path.

**TIPS!** DO NOT use the lower anchors to attach this car seat when a child weighing more than 40 lbs. is secured with the 5-point harness.



On the side of the car seat there is a date of manufacture label. Do not use this car seat more than 10 years after the date of manufacture.



# Cosco Finale 2-N-1 Combination / Booster Seat

Forward-Facing Harness 30—65 lbs. and 32—49”

Child is at least 1 years old.

Belt-Positioning Booster 40—100 lbs. and 43—52”

Review the Best Practice Recommendations of American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for Rear-Facing as long as possible, and Forward-Facing with a harness as long as possible.

**NOTE: The tops of the child’s ears are at or below the top of the child restraint headrest.**



## Child and Harness Fit:



**Head Position:** The top of the child’s ears must be below the top of the car seat.

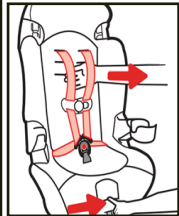


**Harness Strap Position:** The harness strap must be **at or slightly above** the shoulders.



**Buckle Position:** The buckle should not be underneath or behind your child.

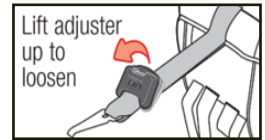
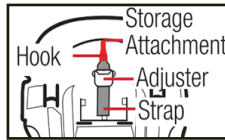
## Forward-Facing



Position the car seat flush against vehicle seat and loosely attach the tether hook to the vehicle tether anchor.

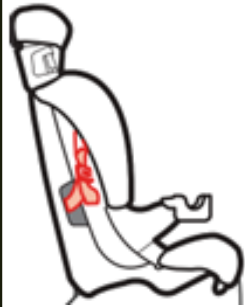


## Installation:

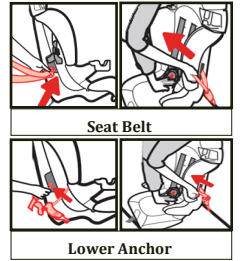


Adjusting the Tether Strap: Attach the tether hook to the tether anchor in the vehicle.

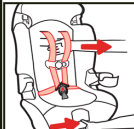
- To tighten: Push down on the car seat and pull the free end of the tether strap.
- To loosen: Lift on the tether adjuster and push up towards the tether hook.



- Thread the vehicle seat belt or lower anchor hook through the forward-facing belt path.
- Buckle the seat belt or attach the lower anchor connectors.
- Tighten the car seat by firmly pushing down and back towards the vehicle seat while pulling the shoulder belt or the free end of the lower anchor.
- Tighten the tether by pushing firmly on the back of the car seat and pulling the free end of the tether strap to remove all slack in the webbing.
- Check for tightness, less than 1-inch of movement when pulled at the belt path.



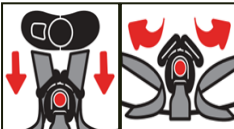
## Booster Seat Mode: Removing Harness System



Fully loosen the harness straps.



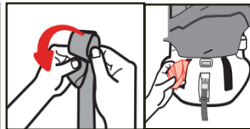
Remove the harness strap loops from the splitter plate and pull out of the shoulder slots.



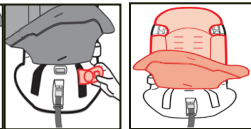
Unthread the chest clip and the buckle. Pull the harness strap out of the car seat.



Remove the buckle and insert so it will hang down under the car seat shell.



Wrap the harness. Place the wrapped harness and chest clip into the storage slots under the pad.



Replace the pad. Pull the harness adjustment strap to move the splitter plate flush against the shell.

## Child Fit:



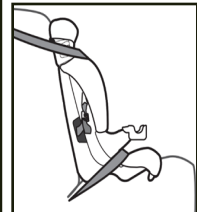
**Head Position:** The top of the child’s ears must be below the top of the booster seat’s headrest.



**Shoulder Belt Position:** The shoulder belt lays across the center of the chest and shoulder.



**Lap Belt Position:** The lap belt should lay snugly across the child’s hips .



- Place the booster seat flush against the vehicle seat.
- The lap belt must go under both arm rests.
- The shoulder belt must only go under the armrest on the buckle side.
- Buckle the seat belt.
- Keep the booster seat securely belted even when unoccupied.



**NOTE: DO NOT** thread the shoulder belt through the slots in the side of the car seat if they are present on your model.

## TIPS!

DO NOT use the LATCH system when using as a booster seat. Secure the lower anchor belt and the tether strap to their storage attachments.



On the side of the car seat there is a date of manufacture label. Do not use this car seat more than 10 years after the date of manufacture.



# Cosco Pronto Belt-Positioning Booster Seat

With Backrest : 40—100 lbs. and 43—57"; Child is at least four years old.  
The tops of the child's ears are at or below the vehicle seat back or headrest.

Without Backrest: 40—100 lbs. and 43—57";

The tops of the child's ears are at or below the vehicle seat back or headrest.

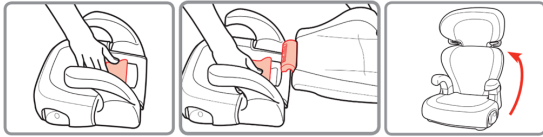
The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children remain in a five-point harness until they outgrow their forward-facing harnessed child restraint.

**Belt Positioning Booster seat must always be used with a Lap and Shoulder Belt.**



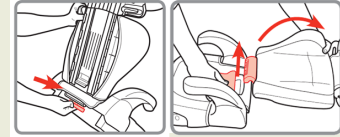
**Booster Seat Assembly Required:** Follow manufacturer's instructions for step-by-step assembling of the booster seat.

## Attaching the Backrest to the Base:



**NOTE:** Headrest **MUST** always be used when using backrest.

## Removing the Backrest from the Base:



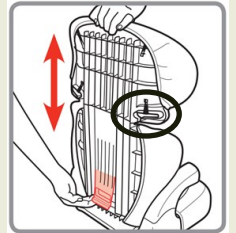
Pull back the seat base fabric and locate the backrest connection hole on the rear of the seat base. Lay the backrest flat and insert the hook on the backrest into the large opening on back of seat base. Rotate the backrest up until it clicks into place.

Press in firmly on the backrest release tab and rotate the backrest back until it lays flat. Lift the backrest hook out of the opening in seat base.

## Booster Seat Height Adjustment

Adjust the headrest as the child grows to maintain proper seat belt positioning. To raise and lower the headrest into one of the height positions, release the headrest adjustment lock and slide into position. The headrest must be locked when used. Pull the headrest up and down. The headrest may move slightly when it is locked.

Shoulder Belt Guide



## Using the Booster Seat With the Backrest



Place the booster seat flush against the vehicle seat back



The child sits with their back flat against the vehicle seat and bottom flat against the seat.



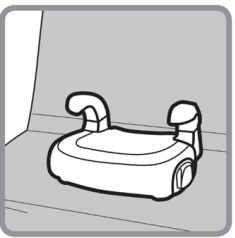
Route the lap portion of the seat belt under both armrests. The lap belt should lay snugly across the child's upper thighs and not on the stomach.



The shoulder belt **MUST GO Under** the armrest on the vehicle buckle side. The shoulder belt should lay snugly across the center of the child's shoulders and chest.



Buckle the vehicle lap and shoulder belt. Pull up on shoulder belt to tighten the seat belt.



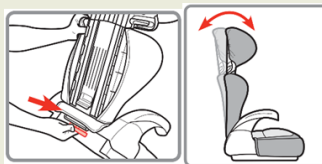
## Using the Booster Seat Without the Backrest

## TIPS!



On the side of the car seat there is a date of manufacture label. Do not use this car seat more than 10 years after the date of manufacture.

The backrest has 2 positions, upright and semi-reclined. Recline the backrest by pushing on the backrest release tab to rotate the top of seat back about an inch. The semi-recline position is used only to install the booster seat flush against the vehicle seat back, if needed.



Use the shoulder belt positioning guide only if necessary to correctly position the shoulder belt on the child.

To position the shoulder belt, secure the shoulder belt in the shoulder belt-positioning guide.



# Cosco Top Side No-Back Belt-Positioning Booster Seat

40—100 lbs. and 43—57" Child is at least four years old.

The tops of the child's ears are at or below the vehicle seat back or headrest.

Belt Positioning Booster seat must always be used with a Lap and Shoulder Belt.

Once children outgrow the forward-facing car seat with a harness, secure them in a belt-positioning booster seat with a lap and shoulder belt until the seat belt fits properly, typically when a child is approximately 4 feet 9 inches and between 8 and 12 years of age.

Booster seats lower the risk of injury for children age 4 to 8 years by 45% compared to children using the seat belt alone.



Using the Cosco Top Side No-Back Booster Seat	TIPS!
 <p>Center the booster seat flush against the vehicle seat back on a forward-facing vehicle seat.</p> <p>Do not use this child restraint without the seat pad.</p>	<p><b>Do Not Use vehicle belts that are in front of the seat bight</b> You may need to move the child restraint to another seating location.</p> 
 <p>The child sits with their back flat against the vehicle seat and bottom flat against the seat.</p>	 <p>Do not use this child restraint if the tops of your child's ears are above the top of the vehicle seat back or headrest.</p>
 <p>Route the lap portion of the seat belt under both armrests. The lap belt should lay snugly across the child's upper thighs and not on the stomach.</p>	<p>This restraint is not certified for aircraft use because aircraft seats do not have shoulder belts.</p> 
 <p>The shoulder belt <b>MUST GO OVER</b> the armrest on the vehicle buckle side. The shoulder belt should lay snugly across the center of the child's shoulders and chest.</p>	<p>If the shoulder belt crosses the child's neck when using the child restraint: Try moving the child restraint toward the center of the vehicle or move the vehicle seat forward or back. Check to see if your vehicle has adjustable shoulder belt anchor points. <b>Do Not</b> place the shoulder belt behind the child's back or under the child's arm.</p>
 <p>Buckle the vehicle lap and shoulder belt. Pull up on shoulder belt to tighten the seat belt.</p>	<p>This child restraint should be securely belted in the vehicle even when not in use.</p> <p>On the bottom of the product there is an expiration date for use of this child restraint. Do not use this child restraint after the expiration date.</p>

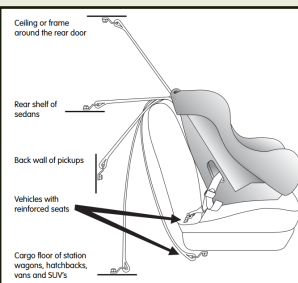
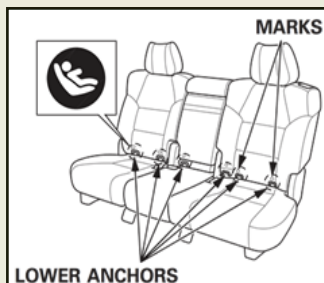
# Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children

- ◆ Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children (LATCH) is designed to install car seats in the vehicle using two lower anchors and one tether, instead of the seat belt.
- ◆ Always look in the vehicle owner's manual to locate the lower anchors and tether anchors in the vehicle.
- ◆ Read and follow the LATCH use directions provided by the car seat manufacturer's instructions and vehicle owner's manual.



The **lower anchor connectors** are located on the lower part of the car seat.

- ◆ The **lower anchor connectors** on the car seat attach onto the lower anchors in the vehicle.

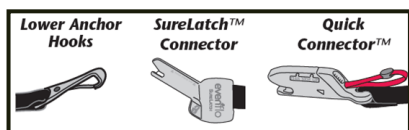


The **tether** is located on the upper part of the back of the car seat.

- ◆ The tether hook attaches to the tether anchor in the vehicle.

## What you need to know about Lower Anchors

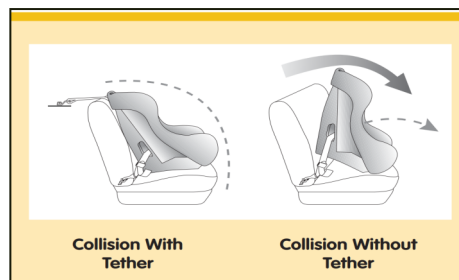
- ◆ Do not exceed the maximum weight limit of the lower anchors.
  - ◆ **If the vehicle manufacturer does not state a weight limit, do not use the lower anchors if the child + the car seat combined weight is greater than 65 pounds.**
- ◆ Thread the lower anchor connector through the correct belt path and attach to the vehicle lower anchors and tighten.
- ◆ Use a designated LATCH seating position. In the center seating position, **DO NOT** use the lower anchors from the outboard seating positions, unless both the vehicle and car seat manufacturers allow.
  - ◆ A car seat can be installed with lower anchors when permitted by both the car seat and vehicle manufacturer.
  - ◆ Always check the vehicle owners manual to make sure the car seat is secured in an approved position.
- ◆ Never install a car seat using lower anchors and the seat belt at the same time unless specifically allowed by both the car seat and vehicle manufacturer.



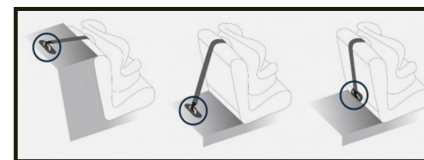
- ◆ **Using Lower Anchor Connectors with Booster Seats:** Some booster seats have lower anchor connectors to secure the booster seat in the vehicle. The vehicle's seat belt secures the child in the booster seat. In this situation, both the lower anchor connectors and vehicle seat belt may be used at the same time and the lower anchor weight limits do not apply.
- ◆ Unused seat belts may be within reach of a child when a car seat is installed with lower connectors. Reduce the risk of entanglement from unused seat belts by securing the seat belt as directed by the vehicle manufacturer.

## What you need to know about Tethers

- ◆ A tether holds the back of the car seat and some booster seats against the vehicle seat to reduce the amount of forward and side movement in a crash.
- A tether can reduce the distance that the child's head moves forward in a crash by 4 to 6 inches, lessening the risk of head injuries in a crash.**



- ◆ Use the tether when installing forward-facing car seats, whenever possible. Car seats can be secured using:
  - ◆ Lower anchors and the tether; OR
  - ◆ Seat belt and the tether.
- ◆ Tether anchor locations are identified in the vehicle manual. Tether anchors have weight limits that vary by vehicle manufacturer. Anchor weight limits are not always stated in the vehicle owner's manual.
  - ◆ **If the vehicle manufacturer does not state a weight limit, do not use the tether if the child + the car seat combined weight is greater than 65 pounds.**
- ◆ To provide optimum protection, a tether must be tightened and attached properly.



## General Cleaning Instructions for Car Seats and Booster Seats

- ◆ **Always follow the car seat manufacturers instructions for cleaning car seats.**
- ◆ **DO NOT** lubricate or immerse in water the LATCH connectors, the buckle, or any other part of the car seat, unless rinsing is permitted, as stated on the back of the buckle for your restraint.
- ◆ Plastic and metal parts may be wiped clean with mild soap and water and dried with a soft cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- ◆ Take care not to damage any labels.
- ◆ Machine wash the seat pad separately in cold water, delicate cycle, if permitted. Tumble dry on low heat, if permitted.
- ◆ **NEVER** use a car seat or booster seat without the seat pad.
- ◆ The harness on car seats may be wiped with the mild soap and water, if permitted. Allow the harness to air dry.