

Car Seat and Booster Seat Safety Facts

Until age 14 the single most dangerous activity a child can do is ride in a car.

On average 7 children are killed every day in motor vehicle crashes. Another 872 children are injured per day.

Over 90% of children are improperly restrained. It is estimated that close to 70% of deaths and 67% of injuries could have been prevented with correct, consistent use of appropriate restraints.

Child safety seats reduce the risk of fatal injury by 71% for infants and by 54% for toddlers in passenger cars.

A SAFE KIDS campaign found that less than 5% of families used booster seats for their children.

A government study showed that less than half of parents and caregivers were even aware of booster seats. Most had no concerns about their child's safety in an adult belt.

Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death in children older than 1 year. Motor vehicle crashes are responsible for 30% of all childhood injury deaths.

Children restrained in adult belts are 4.2 times more likely to sustain a devastating head injury.



Combination Seat/5 Point Harness

Low Back Booster

High Back Booster

Booster Seat Teaching Points

- 1. Kids have to be in the back seat - the back seat is the place to be**
They need to be protected from airbag deployments.
- 2. Kids have to be placed in the appropriate restraint**
All children more than 40 pounds and less than 4'9" tall should be in a booster seat. Any child who cannot sit with his/her back straight against the seat back, with knees bent over the seat edge must use a booster seat.
- 3. Seat Belts must be positioned properly**
The booster seat positions the child so that the shoulder portion of the belt lies between the edge of the shoulder and the neck (across the collar bone) and the lap belt is low and snug on the hips.

The shoulder belt should *NEVER* be placed under the arm or behind the back