

California Passenger Safety Laws & Fines

Law: Children must be properly restrained in a child safety seat or booster seat until they are at least 6 years old OR weigh 60 pounds.

Exceptions: Medical conditions - Life threatening emergency
- Vehicle has lap only belts in the back seat and child weighs over 40 pounds.

Law: Children must sit in the back seat until they are at least 6 years old OR weigh 60 pounds..

Exceptions: There is no back seat - Back seats are side-facing jump seats - Back seats are rear-facing seats - Car seat cannot be installed properly in back seat - Medical reasons.

Law: A child must never ride in the front seat with an active airbag if:

Riding in a rear-facing car seat - Under one year old - Child weighs less than 20 pounds.

Law: Older children must ride properly restrained in a booster seat or properly-fitted safety belts.

Fine: Failing to abide by the laws above and not properly restraining children under 16

Ticket can cost more than \$300 (including penalty assessments) per child, and one point is added to your driving record.

Fine: Drivers and passengers 16 or older must be properly restrained with a seat belt.

Penalty is \$22 per person unrestrained.

KAITLYN’S LAW

Children under the age of 6 may not be left unattended in a car without someone 12 years-old or older if the engine is running, or the keys are in the ignition, or the health and safety of the child is at risk.

Penalty is \$300 or more (including assessments)



Just The Facts!

Did you know . . .

Car crashes are the leading cause of death and disability for children ages 1 to 15?

The good news . . .

By using properly installed child passenger safety seats, many of these deaths and injuries can be prevented.

Research shows . . .

Child safety seats can reduce deaths by as much as 71% for infants, and 54% for toddlers.

Although nationally four out of five car seats are installed incorrectly, parents can do their part to make their child safe by doing the following:

1. Always read the installation instructions, which accompany the car seat and your vehicle.
2. Select the most appropriate car seat that best fits your child and your vehicle.
3. Buckle-up children in the back seat. Rear seats have proven to be the safest seats in the vehicle.
4. Never install a rear-facing car seat onto the front seat of a vehicle with a front-passenger airbag.
5. Rear-face your child until maximum limits that the car seat instructions allow. Rear-facing provides the best protection for child’s neck and spinal cord.
6. Always check for a tight fit and make sure your child is securely buckled up.

Additional Sources of Information and Resources

Automobile Club of Southern California
www.aaa.com

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.aap.org

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety
www.aaafoundation.org

California Highway Patrol
www.chp.ca.gov

California Department of Health Services
www.dhs.ca.gov

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
www.nhtsa.dot.gov

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
www.carseat.org or (310) 222-6860

Safe Kids Worldwide
www.safekids.org

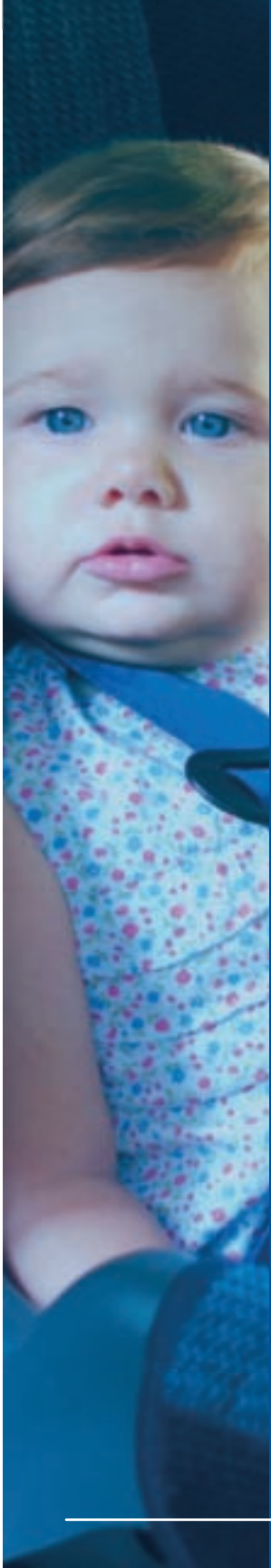
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
www.cpsc.gov



We’re always with you.®



Health Care Agency
Buckle-Up Program
www.ocalthinfo.com



BIRTH to BOOSTERS

“A parent’s guide for child passenger safety seats”

Rear-Facing



Infant Car Seat
Birth-20 pounds

- Recline seat so that head rests comfortably and level indicator is correct.
- Harness straps need to be at or below child's shoulders.
- Harness clip at armpit level.

— Important Tips —

Never put a rear-facing seat in the front seat with an airbag.
Keep harness straps snug (should not be able to pinch fabric of the harness).
Thread vehicle belt through rear-facing belt path (check labels on car seat).



Convertible Car Seat
5-40 pounds

Forward-Facing



Convertible Car Seat
5-40 pounds

- Harness straps routed through forward-facing slots and on child's shoulders or above.
- Keep harness straps snug (should not be able to pinch fabric of the harness).
- Harness clip at armpit level.

— Important Tips —

Recline stand should be in the upright position.
Thread vehicle belt through forward-facing belt path (check labels on car seat).



Combination Booster Seat
20-80 pounds

Booster



Belt Positioning Boosters
30-80 pounds

- Always use with shoulder and lap belt.
- Shoulder belt snug over the child's shoulders and lap belt over hip and upper thighs.

— Important Tips —

No-back boosters must be used with a vehicle headrest to protect child's head.

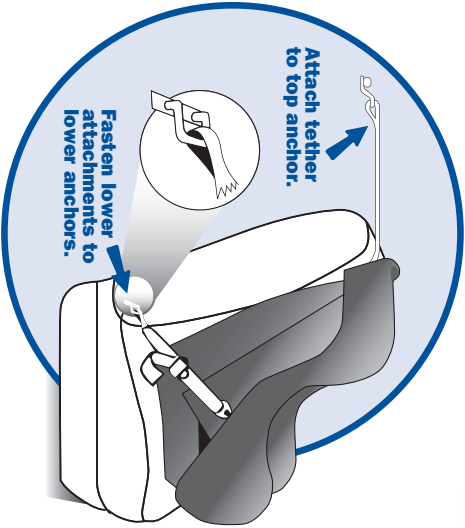


No-Back Boosters
40-100 pounds

Seat Installation

To install your car seat:

- 1) **READ** vehicle and car seat instructions.
- 2) **IDENTIFY** how vehicle seatbelts or LATCH are to be used when installing a car seat (read child restraint section of vehicle instructions).
- 3) **ROUTE** vehicle seatbelt through correct belt path of car seat and buckle it.
- 4) **COMPRESS** car seat while tightening seatbelt or LATCH.
- 5) **BUCKLE** seatbelt.
- 6) **CHECK** car seat installation. Car seat should not move more than 1 inch side to side from the belt path.
- 7) **CHILD** is properly restrained in car seat.



LATCH

Anchors and tethers allow you to securely attach your car seat in your car without using the vehicle belt.

- 1) Fasten car seat's lower attachments to vehicle's lower anchors. Tighten and secure according to vehicle and car seat instructions.
- 2) Attach car seat's top tether to vehicle's top anchor and pull to tighten. Note: Tethers are not used on most rear-facing car seats.

TETHER

Car seats top tether can be used in most forward-facing seats. Read vehicle and car seat instructions for more information.

- 1) Attach tether to top anchor and pull to tighten.