

Frequently Asked Questions about Child Safety Seats

How can I tell if my child's seat is a "safe" one?

Every child safety seat made in the U.S. must be crash tested and federally approved. Sometimes recalls are made on a seat, so always return the registration card when you purchase a seat. This way you will be notified. If you move or need to check your seat, write down the manufacturer's name, model number, and the manufacturer date (These should be on a sticker on the seat) and call the telephone number on the seat, or the Auto Safety Hotline at 1.800.424.9393.

What is the best child safety seat?

The best child safety seat is one that fits in your car well, fits your child well, and one that is convenient enough that you will use it each and every time your child rides in a car. Some stores will actually let you try out a seat in your car before you buy it. Always request this.

What is Utah Law?

- Utah law requires the driver and all passengers to be buckled if a seat belt is available.
- Utah law requires that children up until the age of eight be properly restrained in a federally approved child safety seat in a motor vehicle.
- You may be stopped and cited specifically for a seat belt law violation if anyone under 19 years is unrestrained in your vehicle.
- The driver is responsible for unrestrained occupants in the vehicle under the age of 16.
- Violators will be subject to a fine of \$45.00.

What is a locking clip?

A locking clip is a device attached to the back of all new child safety seats and is used on the safety belt. It is only needed in situations where the safety belt is a shoulder and lap belt, with a free moving latch plate. You can tell this if when the child safety seat is buckled in the car as tight as it goes, but the belt will loosen when the seat is tugged on. Check the actual safety belt and vehicle owner's manual for instructions on installing a safety seat and read the child safety seat manufacturer's instructions on locking clips. Locking clips must always be used if your safety belt system requires it; the child safety seat will fail in a crash without it.

Remember

- 1- Secure the child safety seat with the vehicle belt as tightly as possible by kneeling on the seat or pressing down hard while tightening the belt.
- 2- Read complete child safety seat manufacturers' instructions and automobile owner's manual.
- 3- The safest seating position for your child in your vehicle is the middle of the back seat.
- 4- Never make an exception. Always buckle up your child and always buckle up yourself. The one time you don't, may be the one time you get in a crash, and no excuse will save or bring back your child.

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