It's Your Choice!

$42

$270

PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Strategic Traffic Enforcement Project
Car Seat Checklist for Parents

Common and dangerous errors:

1. Unsafe used seat (rusty, cracked, broken, bent, over 10 years old, unknown crash history).
2. Infant facing the front of the car (babies should face the rear until 20 lbs. and 12 months old).
3. Baby too big for small, infant-only seat (over 18-20 lbs. or head above the top edge of the seat).
4. Child too small for the seat (shield in front of infant's neck or face; child under 30-40 lbs. in booster).
5. Harness straps loose on the child or not threaded correctly (read instructions).
6. Harness straps on the arms or under the arms (straps go over shoulders, usually need clip on chest).
7. Overhead shield (if there is one) not connected to the harness.
8. Buckle not firmly locked (listen for the "click").
9. Car seat on recall list (call one of the numbers listed on the back to find out how to order free parts).
10. Booster used with only a lap belt (either a shield or a shoulder/lap belt must be used).
11. Vehicle safety belt not attached to the car seat (the seat could crush the child in a crash).
12. Safety belt loose (check tightness by pulling the top of the car seat toward front of car, then sideways).
13. Safety belt placed in the wrong slot (read and follow instructions exactly).
14. Too many people in the car (there must be one safety belt per person).
15. Other (a rear-facing infant must ride in the back seat if there is a passenger-side air bag in the front; automatic/passive safety belts cannot be used for car seats; if the buckle for the vehicle belt is too far forward, it may not hold the car seat in place. Read vehicle owner’s manual for possible solutions.)

Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County reminds you to buckle up your children on every ride.

For more information on car seats, safety belts or low-cost car seats, Call:
SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.
(310) 673-2666
(800) 745-SAFE (English)
(800) 747-SANO (Spanish)

Participating Midas Muffler Shops sell a convertible car safety seat (fits from birth to 40 lbs.) for $42. When the child has outgrown it, parents may return the seat and receive a coupon for free service.

Funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety
Get It Right Every Time!

1. Harness fits without slack.
2. Straps on shoulders, not arms.
3. Harness buckle is latched.
4. Safety belt is attached in the right place.
5. Safety belt is tight.
6. Car seat faces back of car for the first year.

Remember!
Your baby must use a car seat until he is 4 years old AND also weighs 40 pounds!