

Rear-facing car seats – Up to 1 year AND 9 kg (20 lb.)

Rear-facing car seats are for children:

- From their first ride home from the hospital.
- Until they are at least one year old AND at least 9 kg (20 lb.).

May remain rear facing longer if allowed by manufacturer's weight limit.



Key points

- All drivers must ensure all children in their vehicle who are up to one year of age AND up to 9 kg (20 lb.) use a rear-facing car seat.
- Rear-facing car seats support and protect the child's head and spine in the event of a frontal crash.
- Rear-facing car seats are required by law in BC for transporting infants.
- All children must remain rear facing until they are at least one year of age AND 9 kg (20 lb.). They may remain rear-facing until they have reached the upper weight limit for the rear-facing position for their car seat.
- Look for a label that says the rear-facing car seat complies with Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (CMVSS).
- NEVER place a rear-facing car seat in a front passenger seat with an active air bag. Death or serious injury can occur when airbags deploy and impact the rear-facing car seat.
- Give your baby frequent breaks from their infant seat. Take your baby out of the infant seat and put him or her in a stroller if you are going shopping or running errands. And, stop regularly if you are on a longer road trip.



Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and read your vehicle owner's manual.

Different rear-facing seat styles

Infant seat (rear facing only)

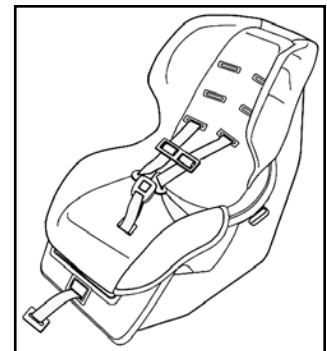
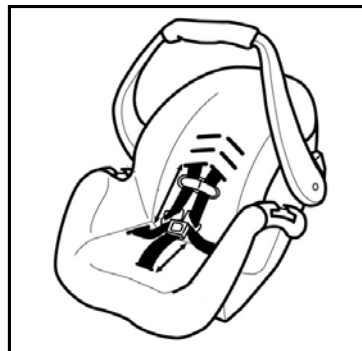
- Choose a child seat with at least 2 sets of shoulder harness slots and 2 crotch strap slots to allow for adjustment as baby grows.

Infant/child seat (convertible)

- Choose a child seat that has a rear-facing weight limit of at least 14 kg (30 lb.).

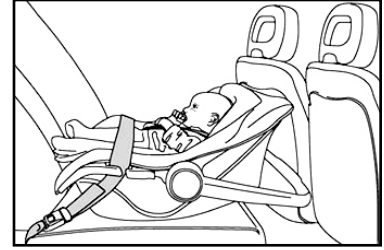
Infant/child/booster seat (3-In-One)

- Choose a child seat that has a rear-facing weight limit of at least 14 kg (30 lb.).



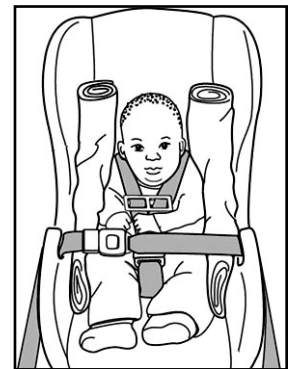
Installation checklist

- I've read the manufacturer's instructions and vehicle owner's manual.
- Child seat faces rear of the vehicle.
- Child seat is **NOT positioned in front of an active air bag.**
- Seat belt or Universal Anchorage System (UAS) is in the correct belt path for rear-facing.
- Child seat is secured tightly by a vehicle seat belt/UAS.
- Back of child seat is reclined to a maximum of 45 degrees from vertical, so my baby's head and body lie back comfortably.
- A locking clip is used if I'm driving a vehicle that requires the use of a locking clip.



Harnessing checklist

- I have read the manufacturer's instructions.
- Harness straps are not twisted.
- Harness straps are below my child's shoulder level.
- Harness is snug so that no more than two fingers can fit between the harness and my child's collarbone.
- Chest clip is at armpit level.
- Child is secured in the harness **before** blankets are put over him or her. (Never place anything between your child and the child car seat's padding.)
- Avoid using bunting bags or bulky clothing.
- Rolled receiving blankets are placed on each side of my child's head for support.



Common mistakes when using rear-facing car seats

- Harness too loose
- Harness in wrong slots
- Chest clip too low or too high
- Seat belt/UAS too loose
- Child car seat too upright

For more information

- www.ChildSeatInfo.ca and www.icbc.com/road_safety/carseat.asp
- Child Seat Information Line: 1-877-247-5551

