

# BOOSTER SEAT INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

## Get the right booster seat.

Make sure you're using the right seat for your child's, age, weight, **and** height. Read your booster seat's instructions for guidance and size limits. Keep in mind that there are different types of booster seats: backless and high-back. Some car seats convert to booster seats.

## Register your booster seat right away.

This is so the manufacturer can notify you in the event of a safety recall. Mail in the registration card that came with the seat, or go to [www.safercar.gov/parents/Car-Seat-Recalls-Registration.htm](http://www.safercar.gov/parents/Car-Seat-Recalls-Registration.htm).

## Read the instructions.

The instructions for your both your vehicle **and** your booster seat will help you use your seat correctly. Your vehicle owner's manual has important information about adjusting seat belts and head restraints. The booster seat's instructions include age, weight, and height recommendations as well as belt positioning information.

## Install your booster seat correctly—in the back seat.

Make sure:

- The booster seat is installed the back seat.** All children under age 13 should ride in the back seat, so install booster seats in the back seat whenever possible.
  - The booster seat is facing forward.
  - There is a **lap and shoulder belt** for your child to use—never use a booster seat with just a lap belt.
  - With a backless booster seat, your child uses the vehicle's seat back or built-in head restraint for head, neck, and back support.

## Secure your child correctly in the booster seat, every time.

### High-back boosters:

Make sure:

- Your child's back is flat against the back of the booster seat.
- The lap belt portion of the seat belt is under the booster seat's arm rests.
- You use the shoulder belt positioners that are provided with the booster seat—to keep the shoulder belt in place.
- The seat belt lays flat—remove all twists.

### Backless boosters:

Make sure:

- Your child's back is flat against your vehicle's seat back.
- The lap belt portion of the seat belt is under the booster seat's arm.
- You use the shoulder belt positioners that are provided with the booster seat—to keep the shoulder belt in place.
- The seat belt lays flat—remove all twists.
- The vehicle's head rest is adjusted following guidance in the vehicle manual.



## Double-check the fit.

Once your child is buckled in:

- The lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach.
  - You may need to pull up on the shoulder belt to tighten the lap belt.
- The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face.