

Is Your Child Safe in the Car?



73% of car seats are misused or improperly installed.* Is yours one of them?

Schedule an appointment with one of our certified technicians and learn how to properly secure your child in his or her car seat and install the car seat correctly in the vehicle.

To make an appointment at either Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital or Yale New Haven Hospital, call 203-200-KIDS or email Carseats@ynhh.org.

* American Academy of Pediatrics – Technical Report, 2018.



Understanding the Connecticut Car Seat Law

Rear Facing Car Seat

- Children under 2 years old must remain in a rear facing car seat with a 5-point harness.
- Children under 30 lbs. must remain in a rear facing car seat with a 5-point harness.



Forward Facing Car Seat

- Children must be at least 2 years old.
- Children must be at least 30 lbs.
- Children who meet both of these requirements must be secured by a 5-point harness and ride in either a forward or rear facing car seat.



Booster Seat

- Children must be at least 5 years old.
- Children must be at least 40 lbs.
- Children must remain in a car seat secured by a 5-point harness or a booster seat using both the lap and shoulder belt until they are at least 8 years old **AND** 60 lbs.



Seatbelt

- Children must be at least 8 years old **AND** 60 lbs. before transitioning out of a car seat or booster seat.
- The vehicle lap and shoulder belt **MUST** always be used.
- “Best Practice” is to use a booster seat beyond the minimum legal requirements.



Additional Information

- Always read the car seat and vehicle manuals when installing and using a car seat or booster seat.
- Violators of this law may be issued fines and must participate in a Department of Motor Vehicles mandatory class on child passenger safety or face license suspension.
- If you have questions or would like to schedule a car seat inspection, call Yale New Haven Children's Hospital Injury Prevention Program at 203-200-KIDS.
- Information contained in this handout comes from Connecticut statute 14-100 (d), effective October 1, 2017.