Most kids need to ride in a booster seat from about age 5 until at least age 8.

If your child isn’t using a booster seat, try this simple test the next time you ride in a car together.

**The 5-Step Test**

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the vehicle seat?
2. Do the child’s knees bend comfortably at the edge of the vehicle seat?
3. Does the seat belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you answered “no” to any of these questions, your child needs a booster seat to ride safely in the car. Kids like boosters because they are more comfortable, too!

For more information on car seats or to find out where to get your car seat checked in your area, please go to: www.ctsafekids.org

To get more information on the Safe Kids coalition in your area, please go to www.ctsafekids.org

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/SafeKidsCT
Infants Must Be in Rear-Facing Car Seats Until They Are 2 Years Old and 30 Pounds

CT law requires infants to ride rear-facing until they are a **minimum** of two years old and 30 pounds.

Make Sure Your Child is Riding Safely.
Below are “To Do” lists for in the car and at home.

**In the Car “To Do” List:**
- **✓** Attach my car seat using either the seat belt or the LATCH, but not both.
- **✓** If my car seat is forward-facing, I’ve attached the top tether strap to the tether anchor.
- **✓** My car seat does not move more than 1 inch side-to-side when I pull on it. (Test it at the belt path—where the seat belt or LATCH belt enters the car seat.)

**In the Home “To Do” List:**
- **✓** Make an appointment to get my car seat checked by a certified car seat technician. Visit www.ctsafekids.org for information on your closest fitting station.
- **✓** Check to make sure my car seat is not recalled. www.safercar.gov or 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236).
- **✓** Mail in my car seat registration card to the manufacturer so any information on recalls will be sent directly to me.
- **✓** I am not using a car seat that has been in a CRASH. For NHTSA’s (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) recommendation on use of a car seat after a crash, www.safercar.gov/parents/carseats/using-car-seat-after-crash.htm or call your car seat manufacturer.

Toddlers Must Be Forward-Facing Only After They Outgrow Their Rear-Facing Car Seats.

Once a toddler outgrows their rear-facing seat CT law requires them to ride in a forward-facing seat with a 5-point harness until they are 5 years old and weigh at least 40 pounds.

Has your car seat expired? Check the back or bottom of the seat for the expiration date.

Connecticut law requires children to be in a booster seat until they reach a minimum of 60 pounds and they are at least 8 years old.

Keep Kids in Car Seats Longer:

Visit www.ctsafekids.org for more information.