**6-12 years...**

Unless your child is over 135cm or 12 years old you should still use a forward-facing highback booster seat as these provide essential protection in a side-impact collision. These must be secured using a standard adult three-point seat belt not a lap belt. You should ensure your child is within the weight range of any booster seat, the longer your child remains on a booster seat the safer they are.

The law allows a child to wear just a seat belt when they reach 135cms (4'5") in height or 12th birthday - whichever they reach first and when the seat belt fits across their chest and not their neck.

**What the Law says**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>Front Seat</th>
<th>Rear Seat</th>
<th>Who is Responsible?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seat belt must be worn if fitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child under 3 years of age</td>
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<td>Driver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correct child restraint must be used</td>
<td>Correct child restraint must be used when seat belts fitted</td>
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<td>Child from 3rd birthday up to 135 cms in height or 12th birthday whichever they reach first</td>
<td>Must use adult belt in a rear seat if correct child restraint not available in a taxi</td>
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<td>Child 12 or 13, over 135 cms in height</td>
<td>Seat belt must be worn if fitted</td>
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**4-6 years...**

From about the age of four, from 18kg (40lbs) your child can use an adult seat belt in conjunction with a booster seat made specially for the purpose.
Keep baby safe

Every year in Britain around 350 children are killed or seriously injured as car passengers. If you allow your child to travel unrestrained you are breaking the law and putting their life at risk.

When you buy a car seat make sure it is labelled either ECE R44-04 or i-Size (see the labels below).

Don’t move your child into the next seat too soon, move them when they are at the maximum weight for the existing seat.

This leaflet serves as a simple guide to different types of restraints available. There are many to choose from, some of which can be adapted for different ages. It is worth shopping around to get advice from retailers who stock a good selection.

Before birth...

It’s all too easy to neglect wearing a seat belt when you’re pregnant, especially if it’s uncomfortable. But if you don’t wear one you are putting both yourself and your unborn baby at risk.

If you wear your belt correctly it will be comfortable and will also keep you and your baby safe.

DO NOT allow the belt to be slack, loose or twisted. It must be snug and comfortable to be effective.

Over the shoulder

Between the breasts

To the side around the bump

Flat on the thighs under the bump

Universal means the seat can be used in the majority of cars.

This details the approved weight range of the child.

‘Y’ shows that the seat has a 5 point harness system.

The baby seat can be used in the front (passenger air bag must be turned off) or the back with an adult seat belt.

The baby seat can be used up to 10kg - 13kg (22lbs - 29lbs) approximately birth to 9-15 months.

Mother (65lbs) a baby MUST be carried rear facing.

New born...

It is vital to have the correct car seat for your baby from their first journey home. The law requires all children are restrained in cars.

Every year in the UK over 40 babies are killed or seriously injured as car passengers. Never carry a baby in your arms in the car, the force of the crash can make a baby weigh 30 times his or her real weight.

In the event of a crash your child would be thrown out of your arms and probably through the windscreen.

Never use a rear facing child seat where a passenger airbag is active. In the event of an accident the force of the airbag can injure or even kill a young child.

Toddler car seats...

It is best to keep your child rearward facing for as long as possible. Babies are best protected travelling in a rear-facing direction. Only move them to the most child seat once they have outgrown the baby seat.

Many types are available, some can be used as a rear facing seat for new born babies and adapted later to become a front facing toddler seat. Child seats can be used until around the age of 4 years or 22kg/48lbs. Most new cars should be fitted with both and special seats can be bought to fit this system.

Over the shoulder

Between the breasts

To the side around the bump

Flat on the thighs under the bump

Universal means the seat can be used in the majority of cars.

This details the approved weight range of the child.

‘Y’ shows that the seat has a 5 point harness system.
Keep baby safe

Every year in Britain around 350 children are killed or seriously injured as car passengers. If you allow your child to travel unrestrained you are breaking the law and putting their life at risk.

When you buy a car seat make sure it is labelled either ECE R44-04 or i-Size (see the labels below).

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i-Size

i-Size is a new regulation (Reg. 129) for child car seats and can be used in cars which are compatible. The regulation will initially only apply to IsoFix child restraints with an internal harness, eventually it will apply to all child car seats, and eventually replace the current regulation (Reg. 44), which is to be slowly phased out.

Child car seats approved under the old regulation are still legal for use. To see if your car conforms to the new regulation, look out for the i-Size label.

For more information on i-Size visit: www.i-size.org.uk

Before birth...

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If you wear your belt correctly it will be comfortable and will also keep you and your baby safe.

Universal means the seat can be used in the majority of cars.

This details the approved weight range of the child.

‘Y’ shows that the seat has a 5 point harness system.

It must state 44/04 – to be in line with current legislation.

DO NOT allow the belt to be slack, loose or twisted. It must be snug and comfortable to be effective.

Over the shoulder

Between the breasts

To the side around the bump

Flat on the thighs under the bump

A ‘Bump Belt’ can be used to keep the seat belt in position

The baby seat can be used in the front (passenger air bag must be turned off) or the back with an adult seat belt.

New born...

The baby seat can be used up to 10kg - 13kg (22lbs - 29lbs) - approximately birth to 9-15 months.

Mother’s Bag: 12-18lbs a baby MUST be carried rear facing.

Newborn babies...

It is vital to have the correct car seat for your baby from their first journey home. The law requires all children are restrained in cars.

Every year in the UK over 40 babies are killed or seriously injured as car passengers.

Newborns could be thrown straight out of your arms and probably through the windscreen.

New born babies should be carried rear facing.

Many types are available, some can be used as a rear facing seat for newborn babies and adapted later to become a front facing toddler seat.

Child seats can be used until around the age of 4 years or 18kg (40lbs).

Most rear seats should be fitted with buffer and special seats can be bought to fit this system.

Toddler car seats...

It is best to keep your child rearward facing for as long as possible. Babies are best protected travelling in a rear-facing direction. Only move them to the next child seat once they have outgrown the baby seat.

Many types are available, some can be used as a rear facing seat for newborn babies and adapted later to become a front facing toddler seat.

Child seats can be used until around the age of 4 years or 18kg (40lbs).
In Safe Hands

A PARENTS GUIDE TO SAFER CAR TRAVEL

6-12 years...

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ALWAYS! Remember to make sure that you, your children and all your passengers are properly restrained every time you go out in the car.

For more information about child restraints visit:

www.childcarseats.org.uk

All you need to know about child car seats

Belt across shoulders and chest - not neck.

Belt across pelvis - not stomach.