

Part 2 – Child Passenger Safety Awareness Training

Child Restraints Must Meet Minimum Standards

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) develops Federal Motor Vehicle Standards (FMVSS) child restraints must meet.

The child restraint manufacturer must assure they do.

Non-Regulated Products

aka After Market products



Not recommended

Washington's Child Restraint Law

effective June 2007

- Children up to their 8th birthday, unless 4'9" tall, must ride in a child restraint.
- Children 8-years of age or taller than 4'9" must use the seat belt correctly or continue to use a child restraint.
- Children under 13 years old must be transported in the back seat *where it is practical to do so*.
- The restraint system must be used correctly according to the car seat AND vehicle manufacturer's instructions.
- Vehicles equipped with lap-only seat belts are exempt from the requirement to use a booster seat.

Traveling Safely Is a Five-step Process

5 Steps to Safety



Types of Car Seats



Rear-Facing Only



Combination



No Back Booster



Convertible



High Back Booster

Parts and Pieces



Shell/Frame

Padding/Cover

Harness slots

Harness straps

Harness retainer clip/tie

Buckle

Parts and Pieces

Labels

Registration card

Tether

Owner's manual

Belt Path(s)

Lower anchorage
attachments



Parts and Pieces



Harness attachment
aka Splitter Plate



Locking Clip



Lock-offs



Parts and Pieces



Belt path



Angle indicators
Recline adjuster



Best Practice

Best practice = the gold standard of protection

Most acceptable way to transport child safely

based on:

- Age
- Weight
- Height
- Body development

Most often children are not transported this way



Step One: Rear Facing



Rear Facing Only Seats



Step One: Rear Facing



Convertible Seats

Riding Rear-Facing

- Supports the head, neck and spine.
- A correct recline angle helps newborn's head lie back, keeping airway open
- Optimal protection = rear-facing as long as possible, **at least 2 years old** - up to the height /weight limits of CR.
- Harness at or below child's shoulders
 - Holds child down and into seat.
 - Adjust it snugly, must pass pinch test.
- Harness retainer clip at armpit level – “Chest” Clip



Children are 5 times safer riding rear facing

Source: Bull, MJ and Durbin, DR, "Rear-facing Car Safety Seats —Getting the Message Right," *Pediatrics*, March 2008

Why Rear-Facing is Important

- Head size in relationship to body size
- Research shows children **beyond age 2** benefit from a RF seat



32-week fetus

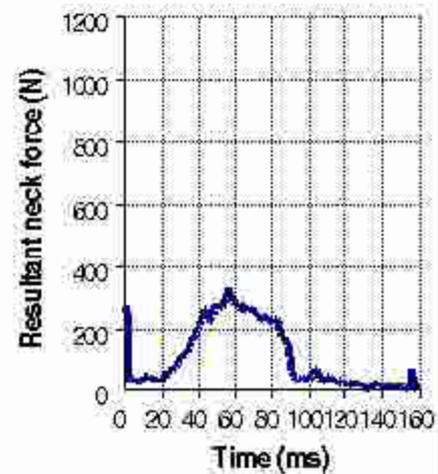
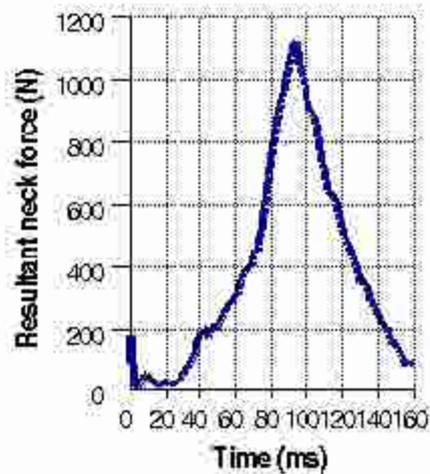


2-year-old child



5-year-old child

REAR-FACING vs. FORWARD-FACING





**3 out of 4
car seats aren't
used correctly.
Surprised?**

The LATCH system makes it easier to be sure your child's car seat is installed correctly every time. Just clip it to the lower anchors, attach the top/tailed, and put the straps tight. To find out more, visit safercar.gov



U.S. Department of
Transportation



How to install a convertible seat rear-facing with lower anchors

<http://www.safercar.gov/parents/How-To-Install-Car-Seats.htm>



Step Two: Forward Facing



Convertible
Seat



Combination
Seat



Step Two: Forward Facing



Convertible
Seat



Combination
Seat

Step Two: Forward-Facing

- When rear-facing seat is outgrown child should ride:
 - forward-facing in a harness system
 - in the rear vehicle seat
- Keep child in a harness as long as possible
- Harness straps at or above shoulders
- Harness straps in reinforced slots
- Harness retainer clip at armpit level

CHOOSE CAR SEAT:
BY AGE & SIZE



THE NUMBER
OF PEOPLE
WHO THINK

THEY HAVE THEIR
CHILD IN THE RIGHT
SEAT.



THE ONES
**WHO
ACTUALLY
DO.**

KNOW FOR SURE

IF YOUR CHILD IS IN THE RIGHT CAR SEAT.



VISIT SAFERCAR.GOV/THERIGHTSEAT



Convertible seat forward-facing with a seat belt and tether

- <http://www.safercar.gov/parents/How-To-Install-Car-Seats.htm>

All-In-One Car Seats

Is this the only child restraint you'll ever need?

How well can it fit both a newborn and a 100-pound child?

Rear-facing Seat

5 to 40 pounds

Forward-facing Seat

20 to 40 (or 50) pounds
but not before 34" tall

Booster Seat

40 to 100 pounds



Use Tethers Forward Facing



In 2011, an estimated 123,000 children under age 13 riding as passengers of cars, SUVs, pickups and vans were injured in traffic crashes.





Step Three: Booster Seat



High-back booster



No-back booster



Step Three: Booster Seat

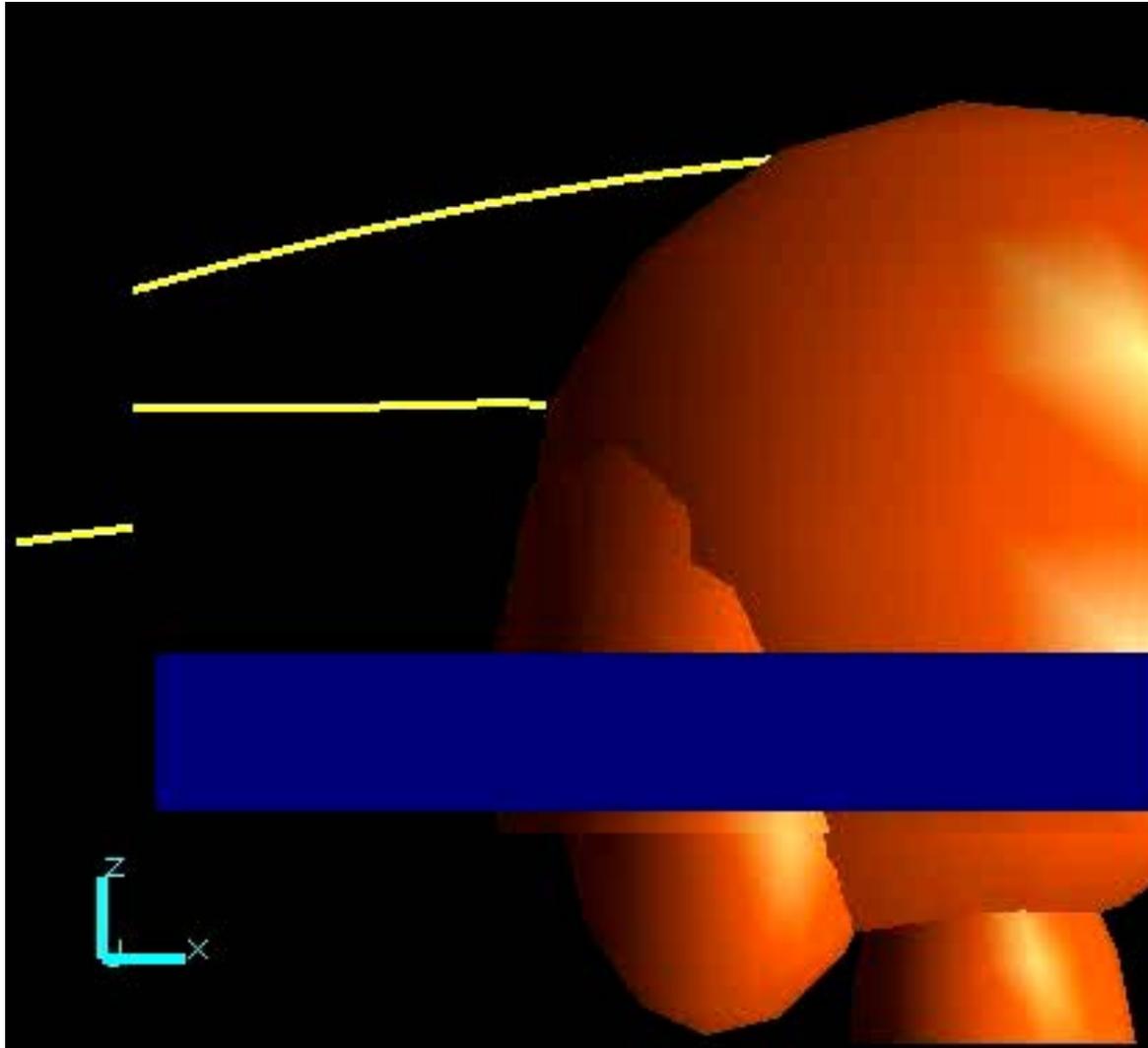


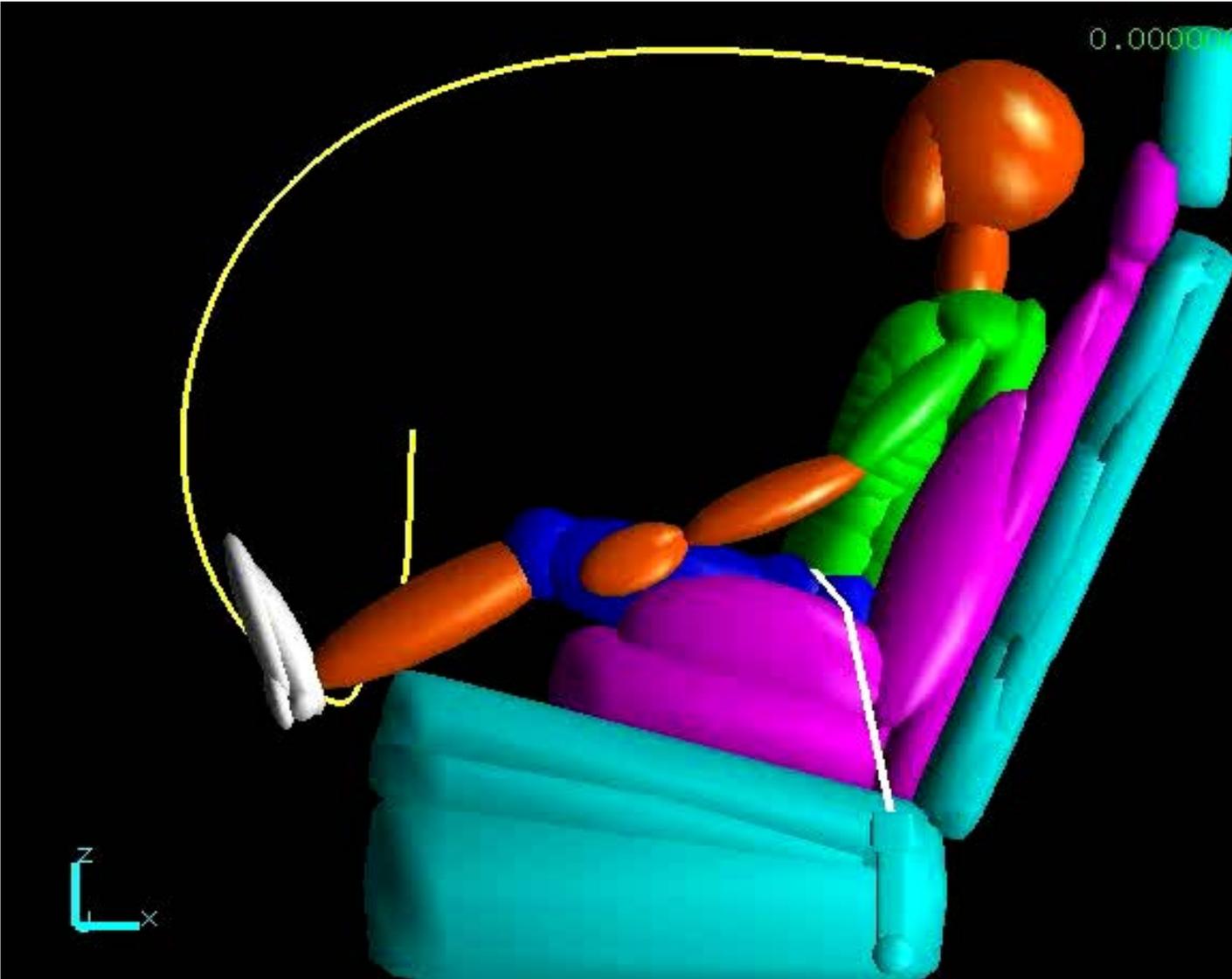
High-back booster



No-back booster

Use Only With Lap AND Shoulder Belt







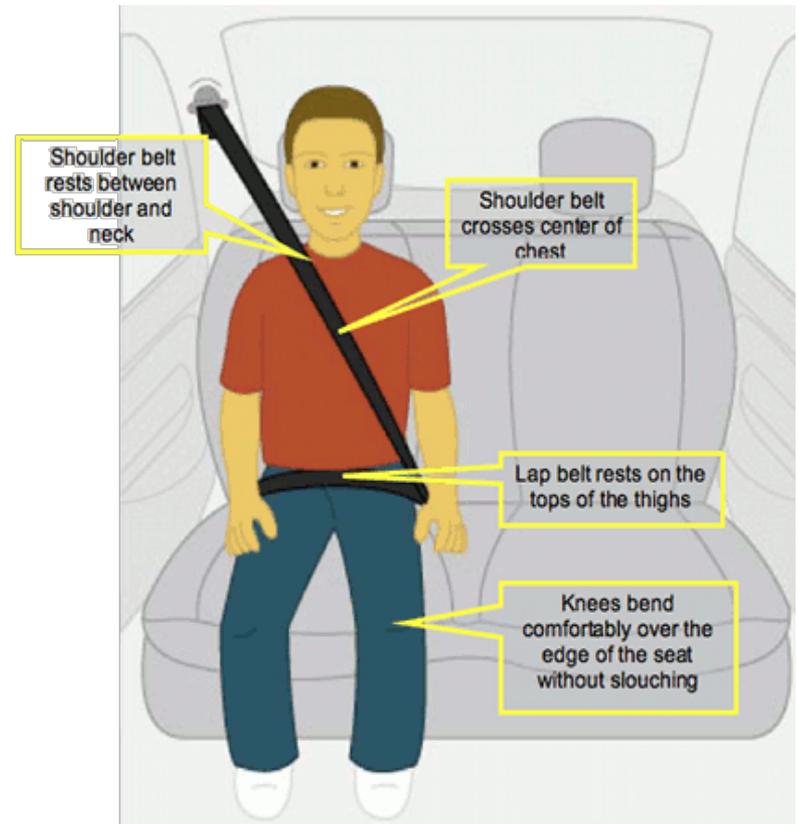


Step Four: Vehicle Seat Belt



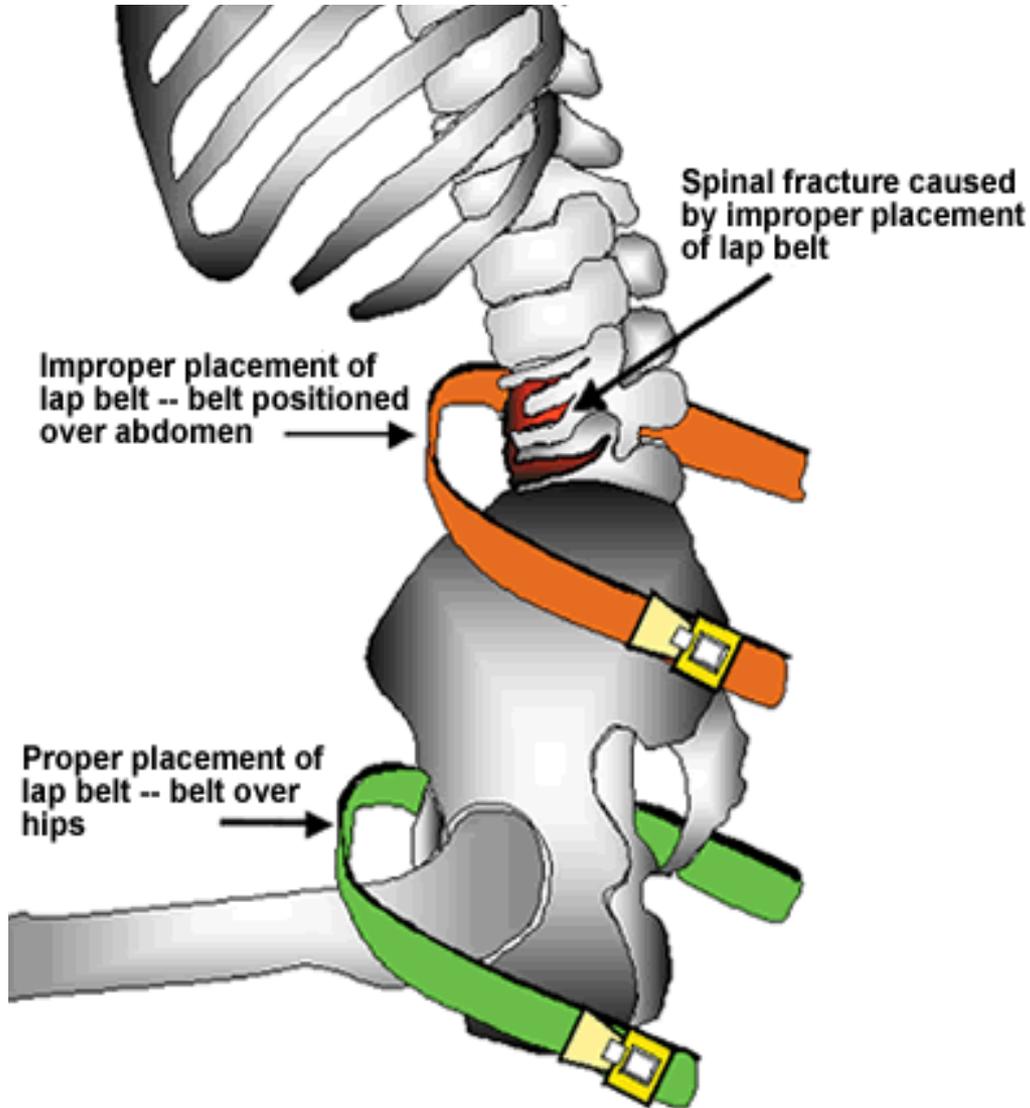
5-Step Test

1. Does child sit all back against vehicle seat?
2. Do child's knees bend comfortably over edge of seat?
3. Does lap belt fit snugly across top of thighs?
4. Does shoulder belt cross center of shoulder and chest?
5. Can child sit like this for the whole trip?



Answering "no" to any question means child needs to continue booster seat use.

Why Emphasize Proper Fit?



The lap part of the adult seat belt needs to fit over the hip bone. If worn on soft abdomen it causes internal injuries called Seat Belt Syndrome.



Step 5: Front Seat

Washington's Seat Belt Law RCW 46.61.687



Air Bag Safety for Kids Video

- <http://www.chop.edu/service/car-seat-safety-for-kids/tips-tools-from-experts/airbags.html>
 - The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

When in motion,
stay buckled up!



If You Transport Many Children

- Purchase child restraints (CR) new – not used.
- Try not to buy all the same brand and same model of CR at the same time.
 - All equipment will not expire at same time
 - If a recall occurs, you might not be able to use until recalled part arrives/is replaced
- Create a file for keeping important information:
 - Manufacturer name, model number, manufacture date and instruction books.
 - Helps quickly identify recalls.

Choosing a Car Seat: Things to consider

1. Weight and height limits (minimum and maximum)
2. Harness slot heights
3. Other fit considerations
4. Vehicle compatibility
5. Desired features, ease of use



Things to Think About

- Used car seats
 - History
 - Recalls
 - Parts and pieces
 - Expiration dates

Installation – Other Vehicles

- Law Enforcement Vehicles
- Medic Units and Ambulances
- Buses
- Taxis and Vehicles for Hire
- Recreational Vehicles

Challenges

Emergency Vehicle Issues

- Side-facing vehicle seats
- Rear-facing vehicle seat
- Aftermarket equipment
 - Safety screen in police vehicle
 - Plastic seats
- Use in certified anchor locations
- Control of loose objects



Child Passenger Safety Post-Quiz

- 1. About how many years should children ride in a car seat?**
A. 4 years B. 6 years C. 8 years D. 10 years E. Until the seat belt fits
- 2. How long should children ride rear-facing?**
A. 1 year B. 1 year and 20 lbs. C. Until 20 lbs.
D. At least 2 years E. As long as possible
- 3. When installing a car seat, you should read:**
A. Car seat instructions B. vehicle owner's manual
C. both A and B D. none of the above
- 4. How tight should harness straps be:**
A. As tight as you can get B. Snug C. Loose

Always remember

**YOU KNOW JUST ENOUGH
TO BE DANGEROUS!**

This is NOT a certification.

You have a BASIC awareness.

There is MUCH more to know
about transporting kids in cars.

Does this look right?



Don't be afraid to say:

“I don't know.”

Does this look right?

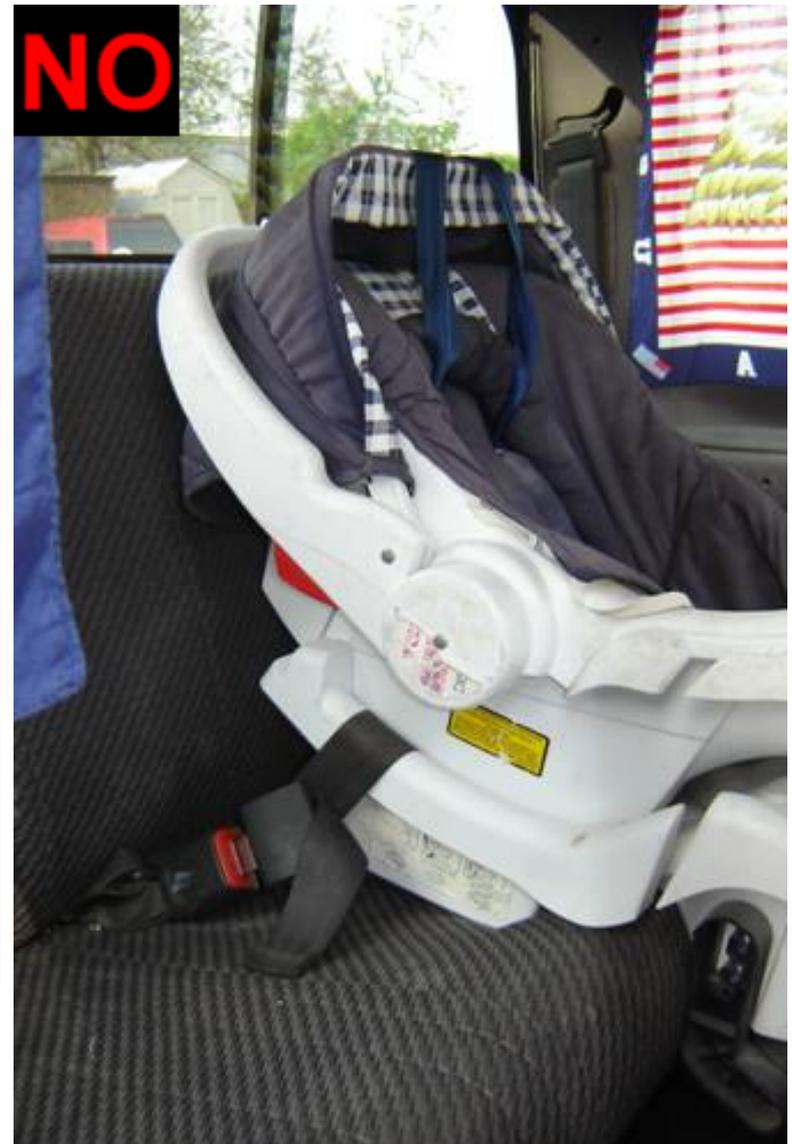


Does this look right?

NO



Does this look right?



Where To Go From Here

- Car seat check events
- Distribute educational materials
- Become a nationally certified
Child Passenger Safety Technician
- Local, regional, state and government
resources

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

- Installing Infant Car Seats Demo, Installing Multi-Use Car Seats Demo, and Installing Booster Seats Demo:
 - <http://www.safercar.gov/parents/How-To-Install-Car-Seats.htm>

Resources

Local

Safe Kids Coalitions and Child Passenger Safety Teams

State

[Kathy Williams](#), Department of Health

Washington's Child Passenger Safety Program

www.citybonneylake.org/childpassengersafety

National

NHTSA www.nhtsa.gov

Safe Kids Worldwide www.safekids.org

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia www.chop.edu

Thank You

Safe Kids Snohomish County

SafeKeepers, LLC

North Region EMS

Safe Kids Washington

Washington Traffic Safety Commission

Washington State Department of Health

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

And...your Instructor Team!



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