

Child Safety Seat Installation



**Is your child
safe?**

**Simsbury Police
Department
Community
Services**



Traveling Safely with Children

- Everybody needs a child safety seat, booster seat, or safety belt.
- There must be one safety belt for each person.
- People who are not buckled can be thrown from the car or around inside the car causing injury to themselves or others.



Child Passenger Safety Facts

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children of all races ages 2-14.
- Child safety seats, when properly installed, reduce the risk of death by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers.
- **In Connecticut, 95% of all child safety seats are improperly installed.**



Getting started...

- **The child safety seat you choose should fit the age, weight and length of your child.**
- **Not every seat fits every vehicle.**
- **It is recommended that you know the history of the seat. Buying or borrowing a seat without knowing if it has been involved in a previous crash, recalled or has all of its parts can be dangerous.**
- **READ both the seat and vehicle manufacturer instruction manuals.**



Safety Issues

- **If the registration card was not returned upon purchase, the owner of the seat may not be aware of a seat recall. Call the manufacturer or register the seat online.**
- **Many parents install or attach toys, window shades and mirrors which may disengage and hurt the child.**
- **No one seat is best, the “best” seat is the one that fits your child and can be installed correctly in your vehicle.**



#1 Infant Seats

(rear facing)

- **Designed for newborns and infants between 5 – 20 pounds, some may be larger or smaller.**
- **Safest position is in the middle of the back seat.**
- **Safety seat should not move more than 1" from side to side (near the seatbelt) and should rock slightly from front to back.**
- **No part of the infant seat should touch the rear of a front seat.**



#2 Convertible Seats (rear or forward facing)

- **A convertible safety seat is recommended when a child is not yet 12 months of age but is at or above the weight limit of an infant seat.**
- **Some convertible seats have weight limits up to 35 pounds rear-facing and 40+ pounds forward-facing.**



#3 Booster Seats

- **A belt-positioning booster seat is preferred for children between 40-100 pounds.**
- **A belt-positioning booster seat is used with both the lap and shoulder belt.**
- **The lap and shoulder belt system alone will not fit most children until they are at least 4'9" and weigh about 80 pounds.**



Connecticut Law

- **Any person who transports a child under the age of 7, AND weighing less than 60 pounds must provide and require the child to use a restraint system.**
- **All drivers and front seat passengers who are not covered by the child restraint law must wear safety belts. Children between the ages of 4 and 16 must also use safety belts in the back seat.**



Connecticut Law

- **Infant seats can not be in front of an airbag**
- **Children in booster seats must be secured with a lap and shoulder seat belt**



Safety Suggestions

- **If your vehicle has a passenger air bag, it is recommended for children under 13 to ride in the back seat.**
- **Refrain from attaching any item within the passenger compartment by using a suction cup, Velcro, or plastic clips.**
- **Secure and remove all passenger compartment items from being possible projectiles.**



Inspection and Parent Education

- **Once you have installed your child safety seat, you may make an appointment by calling the Simsbury Police Department at 658-3100 to have your seat inspected.**
- **A safety seat technician will check your work and assist you with correcting any errors, if needed.**

For further information contact...

- **Connecticut Safe Kids**
 - www.ctsafekids.org
- **CT. Department of Transportation**
 - <http://www.ct.gov/dot>
- **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**
 - www.nhtsa.gov

