

# CAR SEAT INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

## For rear-facing and forward-facing car seats

- Get the right car seat** for your child's age, weight, and height.
- Register your seat right away** so you can be notified if there's a safety recall.  
[www.safercar.gov/parents/Car-Seat-Recalls-Registration.htm](http://www.safercar.gov/parents/Car-Seat-Recalls-Registration.htm)
- Read the instructions** for both your vehicle and your car seat.
- Install your car seat correctly** in the back seat, facing the correct direction, reclined at the correct angle, and securely installed using the seat belt or lower anchors. The seat should not move more than an inch front-to-back or side-to-side. If you use a seat belt for installation, follow your vehicle owner's manual instructions for locking the seat belt. For forward-facing car seats, connect the seat's tether strap to the tether anchor and tighten.
- Buckle your child in the car seat, every time.**

Be sure to check:

- The position of the harness straps.**

### Rear-Facing

Straps should be routed through the harness slots at or just **below** your child's shoulders.



### Forward-Facing

Straps should be routed through the harness slots at or just **above** your child's shoulders.



- The fit of the harness.** The harness straps should be snug and free of twists. You shouldn't be able to pinch excess webbing at your child's shoulders.
- The harness buckle.** Make sure both metal pieces are fully inserted and secure.
- The chest clip.** It's essential to buckle the chest clip at your child's armpit level.

