



Nottinghamshire
County Council
Community Services

Trading Standards

Information

Child Car Seats – A Guide for Parents

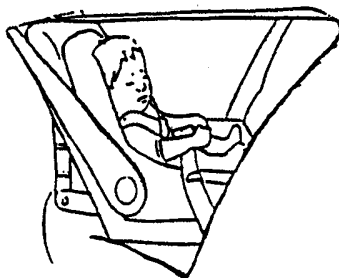
It is important to restrain your child in any car, but a child seat will only protect your child if:-

- It is the right restraint for the child
- It is fitted correctly
- The harness is properly adjusted

Remember, your child's safety depends on this.

Child restraints come in a wide variety of types- baby seats / infant carriers, child seats, booster seats and booster cushions. The appropriate restraint depends on the weight, size and age of your child. The diagrams below explain this.

**BABY SEAT/
INFANT CARRIER**



**Approximate age
and weight range**
Birth to 6-8 months
Or birth to 12-15 months
Up to 10kg (22lbs)
Or up to 13kg (28.5lbs)

**CHILD/
TODDLER SEAT**



**Approximate age
and weight range**
6-8 months to 3-4 years
9-18kg (20-40lbs)

BOOSTER SEAT



**Approximate age
and weight range**
6-8 months to 7 years
9-25kg (20-55lbs)
(age & weight ranges
vary from one seat to
another)

BOOSTER CUSHION



**Approximate age
and weight range**
3-4 years upwards
15-36kg (33-80lbs)

Please turn over...

Trading Standards
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7QP
Tel: 08450 505 200

Trading Standards
16 Regent Street
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 1SS
Tel: 08450 505 200

Trading Standards
2 Middle Gate
Newark
Nottinghamshire
NG24 1AG
Tel: 08450 505 200

Trading Standards
17B The Square
Retford
Nottinghamshire
DN22 6DB
Tel: 08450 505 200

Website: www.consumercomplaints.org.uk

Minicom: 0115 9772395

How to keep your child safe on every trip

- Choose the right seat for your child's weight and physical development.
- Don't move your baby from the infant carrier until they can sit up unaided for long periods.
- If possible, before you buy a seat, try it out in your car. Make sure it can be fitted in the way the manufacturer says, as not all car seats fit all cars.
- Always read the manufacturer's leaflet and fit the seat exactly to the instructions. If you can't do this, you have got the wrong seat. When properly fitted the seat should be rigid.
- Secure the child in the seat on every journey exactly as the manufacturer says, no matter how short the trip. The harness should always be adjusted so that it fits securely around the child. You should not be able to fit more than two flat fingers between the child and the harness.
- Make sure that everyone in the car is correctly restrained.
- If your front passenger seat is fitted with an airbag, you should not use a baby seat or child seat on that seat - use the rear seats.

Second-hand Seats

- Do you know its history?
It may be OK to accept a second-hand seat from a good friend or relative where you know its history, but you are strongly advised NOT to buy a second-hand seat, particularly not one from a car boot sale.
- Don't use a seat:-
that has been in an accident
if there are any signs of wear on the harness
with cracks in it
- Make sure that you have all the parts and the fitting instructions.
- Remember that older seats won't always have the same safety features as new ones and may be less convenient to use.
- And, please don't compound the risks by selling your used car seats.

All our information leaflets are available in a range of formats, including tape, large print or Braille. They can also be translated into any main language spoken in Nottinghamshire. If this would be useful to you please contact us on 0115 9773389.