

**General guidance**

- Every child must be properly restrained on every trip
- All children under 13 years of age should ride in the rear seat
- Children are more likely to be properly restrained if the driver is restrained

**Children under 24 months**

- All infants and toddlers should ride in a rear-facing car safety seat until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by the manufacturer.
- The safety seat should be firmly attached to the vehicle seat (no more than one inch of movement in any direction)
- The harness straps should come through the lower slots of the safety seat and should be snug with the chest clip connected at the level of the armpits

**Children over 24 months, weighing 40 pounds or more**

- Once children reach 24 months of age, they should still ride in the rear seat. If a child has to ride in the front, the airbag must be turned off
- The safety seat should be firmly attached to the vehicle seat (no more than one inch of movement in any direction).
- Shoulder straps should come through the upper slots of the safety seat, just behind or over the shoulders, and should be snug with the chest clip at the armpit; there should be no more than two fingers of room between the strap and the child's body

**Children between 40 and 80 pounds and under 4 feet 9 inches**

- All children whose weight or height is above the forward-facing limit for their safety seat should use a belt-positioning booster seat until the vehicle lap-and-shoulder seat belt fits properly, typically when they have reached 4 feet 9 inches in height and are between 8 and 12 years of age.

**Children over 80 pounds and 4 feet 9 inches**

- Children this size should always use the vehicle seat belt
- They should ride in the back seat until they reach 13 years of age

**Children 13 years of age and older**

- Children older than 13 years can ride in the front as long as they are wearing a seat belt
- Teenagers should be actively discouraged or prevented from riding with novice drivers

**Teenage drivers**

- Learners should have at least six months of supervised driving—including some driving at night and in bad weather—with a licensed driver over 21 years of age
- Once teenagers get a license and can drive without supervision, they should not carry passengers for at least six months, and they should be restricted from driving late at night