

Vermont Department of Health

Rear-Facing Seat

STAGE 1

1



Car Seat
Safety Information
for Parents & Caregivers

Keep our children safe by starting with a rear-facing car seat.

Children should ride rear-facing until 3 years old or to the limits of their seat, whichever keeps them rear-facing longer.



- Harness straps at or below the shoulders.
- Never place an infant-only car seat in a forward-facing position.
- Check car seat owner's manual for proper fit of harness to child.

Children are safest riding rear-facing.

The safest place for children is in the back seat.

Never place a rear-facing seat in front of an active airbag.

888-VMT-SEAT (868-7328)

BeSeatSmart.org

Rear-Facing Seat **STAGE 1**

Children birth to 3 years, and even older, are less likely to be severely injured when using a rear-facing car seat.

All Harnessed Seats:

- ▣▶ Check both the car seat owner's manual and the vehicle manual for proper installation.
- ▣▶ Check labels to determine the correct belt path of the child seat.
- ▣▶ Use the seat belt or the lower anchors, not both.
- ▣▶ The seat belt must be locked when used with a car seat. See the vehicle and car seat manuals for instructions.
- ▣▶ Make sure the seat is secured and snug to the vehicle with less than one inch of side-to-side movement. Check by placing one hand at the belt path and pulling.
- ▣▶ Place the chest clip at armpit level.
- ▣▶ Make sure nothing is behind or under the seat or child—no jackets, blankets or bulky clothing.
- ▣▶ Harness must be flat and smooth—no twists.
- ▣▶ Harness must be snug. If it can be pinched at the shoulder, tighten the harness.

Learn more at:

BeSeatSmart.org

