

Booster seats – Under 9 years

Booster seats are for children:

- Over 18 kg (40 lb.).
- Until they are 9 years old unless they have reached the height of 145 cm (4'9") tall.

Children may remain in a forward-facing car seat with harness if allowed by manufacturer's weight limit.



**NEW LAWS
IN EFFECT
July 1, 2008**

Key points

- Children who have outgrown their forward-facing child seat **must use a booster seat until they are 9 years old** unless they have reached the height of 145 cm (4'9") tall. **NEW**
- **All drivers** must ensure **all children** in their vehicle who are over 18 kg (40 lb.) use a booster seat until they reach the age/height specified above.
- Look for a label that says the booster seat complies with Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (CMVSS).
- Seat belts are designed to fit adults.
- Without a booster seat, the incorrect positioning of the lap belt can cause spinal and/or internal injuries in a crash.
- If your child is over 18 kg (40 lb.), a booster seat will correctly position the vehicle seat belt over the child's shoulder, across the chest and hips, significantly reducing the risk of injury and/or death.
- **You must keep your child in a booster seat until their 9th birthday** unless they have reached the height of 145 cm (4'9") tall. **NEW**



Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and read your vehicle owner's manual.

Different booster seat styles

High-back belt-positioning booster

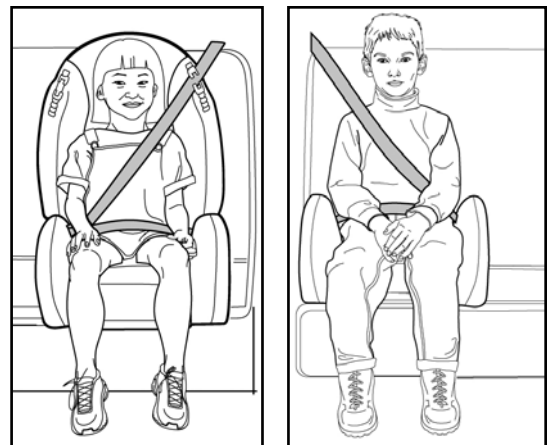
- Recommended for use when there is no vehicle head rest. **Must** be used with a shoulder and lap belt.

Backless belt-positioning booster

- Can be used when the seat backs are high and a head rest is present. **Must** be used with a shoulder and lap belt.

Child/booster seat (combination)

- Once your child reaches the upper weight limit for use with the harness, the harness is removed and the child seat is converted to a belt-positioning booster. When the harness is removed, the booster seat **must** be used with a lap and shoulder belt.



Infant/child/booster seat (3-In-One)

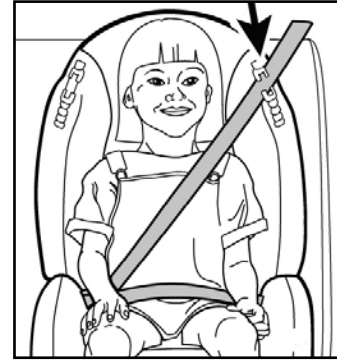
- Once your child reaches the upper weight limit for use with the harness, the harness and base are removed and the child seat is converted to a belt-positioning booster. When the harness is removed, the booster seat **must** be used with a lap and shoulder belt.

If there is no lap/shoulder belt, your child must be secured by a lap belt without a booster seat.

NEW

Installation checklist

- I've read the manufacturer's instructions.
- Booster seat faces the front of the vehicle.
- Booster seat is flat on the vehicle seat.
- Lap belt is snug across the hips (not the abdomen).
- Shoulder belt is threaded through the belt positioner (if applicable) so that it lies across my child's shoulders and across the chest.
- Booster seat is buckled in even when my child is not present. (An unbuckled booster seat can injure others in a crash.)



Common mistakes when using booster seats

- Graduating child into booster seat too soon
- Graduating child to adult seat belt too soon
- Placing shoulder belt behind your child's back or under the arm

For more information

- www.ChildSeatInfo.ca and www.icbc.com/road_safety/carseat.asp
- Child Seat Information Line: 1-877-247-5551

