

# WHICH SEAT IS RIGHT FOR MY CHILD?

The best seat for your child is one that fits your child's size, is correctly installed, is used properly every time you drive and meets Oregon laws.

## REAR-FACING INFANT SEAT



For infants until they are 1 year old and more than 20 pounds.

- Never put a rear-facing infant seat in the front seat of a vehicle with air bags.

**Oregon Law for Rear-Facing Infant Seats:** Infants must ride in rear-facing seats until they are 1 year old and weigh more than 20 pounds.

## FORWARD-FACING CHILD SAFETY SEAT



For kids 1 year old or older and between 20 and 40 pounds.

- Make sure the forward-facing child safety seat is placed in an upright position.

**Oregon Law for Forward-Facing Child Safety Seats:** All children who weigh 40 pounds or less must ride in a child safety system appropriate for the child's size.

## BOOSTER SEATS



For children who have exceeded the height or weight limit for their forward-facing seat.

- Secure with the car's lap and shoulder belts. Never use a booster seat with just a lap belt.

**Oregon Law for Booster Seats:** All children weighing more than 40 pounds must ride buckled in a booster seat or system that raises them up so the adult safety belt fits properly. Children must continue to use a booster seat until they are at least 8 years old or 4'9" tall.

*Exemption: Children are exempt when the rear seats of the vehicles they are riding in have lap belts only. In such case, children must be secured by the lap belts.*

## LAP AND SHOULDER BELTS



For children who are big enough to wear a lap and shoulder belt properly (usually at least 4'9" tall).

- Proper fit means the lap belt is low across the thighs, and the shoulder belt is over the collarbone and away from the neck.

**Oregon Law for Lap and Shoulder Belts:** Children who are at least 8 years old or 4'9" tall may graduate to an adult safety belt, but only if it fits properly.

## Tips for a safely buckled up trip:

- BE A ROLE MODEL FOR YOUR CHILD. Buckle up every single time — even on short trips.
- Always read and follow your child safety seat instructions and vehicle owner's manual when installing a child safety seat.
- ALWAYS put children under 13 in the back seat.
- Never place more than one person in the same safety belt.
- Never hold a child on your lap in a vehicle — in a crash, the child can be ripped from your arms and crushed.
- Never let a child push a shoulder belt under the arm or behind the back.
- Never allow a child under 18 to ride in the open bed of a pickup truck. It's illegal in Oregon — and it's often deadly.