WHICH SEAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

According to North Carolina Law, children must be properly restrained in an appropriate car seat or booster until they are 8 years old or 80 lbs., whichever comes first.

WEIGHT	Birth to 20+ lbs. and at least 1 year	Older than 1 year, more than 20 lbs. and up to 40+ lbs.	More than 40 lbs. and up to 80+ lbs.	More than 80 lbs. and at least 4'9" tall
TYPE OF CAR SEAT	Infant Seat or Rear-Facing Convertible	Convertible or Combination (Forward-Facing with Harness)	Highback or Backless Booster	Lap/Shoulder Safety Belt
CAR SEAT POSITION	Rear-Facing Only At a minimum, infants must be rear-facing up to 1 year old and at least 20 lbs. **Children should remain Rear-Facing as long as possible**	Forward-Facing or Rear-Facing Check safety seat compatibility and manufacturer's instructions	Forward-Facing	
IMPORTANT	Harness straps at or below shoulder level Never put a rear-facing safety seat in the front seat with an airbag Check weight limits on the infant seats **Retainer clip should be threaded properly and placed at armpit level**	Harness straps should be routed through the top slots or as indicated in the manufacturer's instructions	Booster seats must be used with both lap and shoulder belts Make sure lap belt fits low on the hips or upper thighs Use shoulder belt-positioning clip to properly fit the shoulder belt if needed Never use a booster seat with only a lap belt	**For a proper fit:** Child sits all the way back against vehicle seat Knees bend comfortably at the edge of the seat Belt crosses shoulder between neck and arm Lap belt is low, touching hips or upper thighs

Children 12 and Under Should Ride in the Back Seat!

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
HIGHWAY SAFETY RESEARCH CENTER

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NORTH CAROLINA
GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

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Safe Kids
North Carolina