CAR SEAT SAFETY

CAR INJURIES are the leading cause of death among children in the US¹

Child safety seats can reduce that risk by up to 71% WHEN INSTALLED CORRECTLY²

51% OF SIDE IMPACT COLLISIONS INVOLVING INFANTS RESULT IN DEATH³

3 out of 4 car seats are installed INCORRECTLY¹

PROPER FIT AND INSTALLATION ARE CRUCIAL TO YOUR CHILD’S SAFETY. WHEN SHOPPING FOR A CAR SEAT CONSIDER THESE 5 STEPS.

SELECTION
FIND THE BEST CAR SEAT.
Choose the one that best fits your child and your vehicle.

All current car seats are required to pass government safety standards. It’s important to select a model that gives you the confidence that you’re installing it correctly. Make sure the features are easy to use and understand.

DIRECTION
REAR-FACING AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.
Keep your child rear facing as long as possible or until they reach the maximum weight/height allowed by the car seat manufacturer.

LOCATION
TIGHT INSTALL EVERY TIME.
The safest seating position is one that works best for your specific car seat, family and vehicle. Choose the location that provides the tightest installation every time.

INSTALLATION
READ MANUALS.
Always read your vehicle and car seat manual prior to installation. When looking for LATCH location or approved seating locations, always reference your car’s manual.

PROPER FIT
POSITION HARNESS STRAPS PROPERLY.
The harness should be at or slightly below the child’s shoulders when rear-facing. This will prevent the child from sliding upwards in the event of a crash. (For older children who are forward-facing, place harness at or above the child’s shoulders.) Harness should be snug so that you cannot pull the strap from the body and pinch the fabric together. The straps should be flat and untwisted.

¹ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, ² Center for Disease Control, ³ Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) by NHTSA, 2005-2009
SAFETY CHECKLIST
To ensure you and your baby have a safe trip every time, follow this checklist!

☐ Place chest clip at armpit level.
Not too high or too low.

☐ Installation should be tight.
The base of the seat should not move more than 1 inch side-to-side or front-to-back at the belt path.

☐ Harness straps have different locations if a car seat is rear or forward facing.
Rear-facing: Harness straps should be at or below the child’s shoulders.
Forward-facing: Harness straps should be at or above the child’s shoulders.

☐ Perform the pinch test in the shoulder area to make sure the harness is tight enough.
It is important that the harness is snug against the hard points of your child’s body.

☐ Store loose objects in trunk.
Anything unrestrained in the vehicle can become a projectile.

☐ Use only manufacturer-approved products.
If products do not come with the car seat or do not have the same company name on them, they are not crash tested with the seat. Contact your manufacturer if you are unsure.

☐ No bulky coats under harness.
Too much padding can give a false sense of tightness. Blanket over harness is OK.

☐ Car seats expire.
Check with the manufacturer (the MESA has a 7-year expiration date).

☐ Check installation often.
Adjust harness, check straps, and review safety guidelines.

☐ Read Your Manual.
Always read your car seat manual prior to installing your car seat. Your car seat manufacturer should be your primary resource for information regarding your car seat.

RESOURCES
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration nhtsa.gov
Centers for Disease Control cdc.gov
Safe Kids Worldwide safekids.org
Safety Belt Safe U.S.A. carseat.org
Insurance Institute for Highway Safety iihs.org
Injury Free Coalition for Kids injuryfree.org

UPPAbaby MESA
AN INDUSTRY FIRST SMARTSECURE™ SYSTEM

An industry first. MESA is the only infant car seat with a unique system utilizing a tightness indicator and self-retracting LATCH connectors for fast, accurate and easy installation. The indicator window turns from red to green when the MESA base is correctly connected providing parents with confidence that their car seat is safely installed every time.

More info at uppababy.com/mesa/overview

AWARDED NHTSA/FIVE-STAR-RATING
HIGHEST GOVERNMENT-RATED EASE OF USE