



The following recommendations will provide the safest way to transport your child according to the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Additionally it will ensure compliance to the New Jersey Child Passenger Restraint Law. (Title 39:3-76.2a)

Any child under the age of 8 years old and a height of 57 inches shall be secured as follows in the rear seat of a motor vehicle:

- A.** A child under the age of 2 years and 30 pounds shall be secured in a rear-facing seat equipped with a 5-point harness.
- B.** A child under the age of 4 years and 40 pounds shall be secured as described in (a) until they reach the upper limits of the rear-facing seat, then in a forward-facing child restraint equipped with a 5-point harness.
- C.** A child under the age of 8 and a height of 57 inches shall be secured as described in (a) or (b) until they reach the upper limits of the rear-facing or forward-facing seat, then in a belt positioning booster seat.
- D.** A child over 8 years of age or 57 inches in height must be properly secured by a seat belt.

If there are no rear seats, the child shall be secured as described above in the front seat except that no child shall be secured in a rear-facing seat in the front seat of any vehicle that is equipped with an active passenger-side airbag. The aforementioned is acceptable if the airbag is de-activated

Note to Expectant Parents: Plan to have your child safety seat (infant seat) installed in your vehicle at least three weeks before the due date of your baby. Schedule an appointment for at least three weeks prior to the due date; you'll make sure that you're ready for the big day. Most babies are delivered within the month surrounding the due date, so by including your child seat education three weeks before, the odds of being fully prepared on the birth day are enhanced.

Correct use is easy if you follow four steps:

- Read the manufacturer's instructions for your car seat.
- Face the child safety seat in the proper direction
- Infant seats always face backwards. Baby rides in a semi-reclining position facing the rear of the car.

- Convertible seats face backwards in a semi-reclining position for infants under 30 pounds and under 2 year of age, and forward in an upright position for toddlers.
- Secure your child snugly in the car seat.
- Always buckle the seat's harness system securely to hold your child safely in the seat. Allow no more than one finger-width of slack between your child's collarbone and the harness strap.
- Secure the child car seat with a seat belt.
- Anchoring the seat properly with a seat belt is critical. A seat that is not buckled securely to the car can tip over, slide sideways or, in a crash, be ejected from the car.
- Check your instruction manual to find out how to route the seat belt properly and fasten it tightly.

To set up an appointment please call Sergeant James Buccola @201-768-5000 ext 533 or Officer Justin Krapels @ 201-768-5000 ext 408. You may also contact either officer via email at jbuccola@closterpolice.org or jkrapels@closterpolice.org

Helpful Links

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/child-safety>

<https://www.safekids.org/>



▶ IMPORTANT CHANGES ◀

New Jersey's Car Seat Law


As of September 1, 2015, the NJ Car Seat Law will be changing. Here's what you need to know:



Children under the age of 2 and weighing less than 30 lbs. MUST be in a rear-facing car seat with a 5 point harness. The car seat must be in a rear seat of the vehicle.



From age 2 through age 4 and weighing up to 40 lbs., children must be secured in a seat with a 5 Point harness, either rear-facing (up to height & weight limits of the particular seat), or forward-facing in the rear seat of the vehicle.



For ages 4 until 8 and less than 57" (4'9"), child must be seated in either a car seat with a 5 pt. harness or a booster seat, also in the rear seat of the vehicle.



Ages 8 and up must wear a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt.
If there are no rear seats (e.g., standard cab pickup truck), the child must be secured in the appropriate car seat or booster for their age, weight & height in the front passenger seat. If the child is in a rear-facing car seat, the passenger side airbag must be disabled or turned off.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT SEAT

A child can ride **safely**
without a **booster** seat
when you can say **YES** to **ALL 5**



Back against
the vehicle
seat



Knees bend at
edge of seat



Lap belt on
tops of thighs,
not on belly



Shoulder belt
between neck
and shoulder



Sits properly.
No slouching,
no playing with
seat belt, etc.

* To ride safely, most kids need a booster until age 10-12 *



THE CAR SEAT LADY