

car seats  
for kids  
by Imperial™



Your concise guide to car seats



Buckle up  
and make the  
roads safer for  
little lives.

## Golden Rules for Car Seats

Always secure your child in a car seat when you drive anywhere. Most collisions occur “just around the corner”

Vehicles are not a child-friendly zone, you have to make them so with car seats.

Keep your child in the correct seat for as long as possible, but no longer. It is also dangerous to keep your child in a car seat that they have outgrown.

A child outgrows their car seat when they have reached the upper weight margin of the seat OR their shoulder is higher than the highest belt adjustment of the seat.

**Harness belts must not be twisted or turned.**

Tighten the harness just right. The harness must fit snug – you must be able to fit your hand in between your child’s tummy and the buckle.

The shoulder straps of the harness must never go over and below the shoulder. At shoulder height or slightly above the shoulder is good.

Car seats must be installed with a 3 point seatbelt unless they are specifically designed for Isofix or a lap-belt-only installation.

**Make sure your seat has good side impact protection to protect your child’s head and neck.**

Car seats are used to minimise risk during a collision. They do not eliminate risk. You must adjust your driving when driving with children – remember you are already training them as drivers through your example. Be the driver you want your children to be. Drive lovingly.

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## BABY SEATS

Group 0 seats are designed for babies from birth to 9kg.

Group 0+ are designed for babies from birth to 13kg.

Usually have a 3 point harness and plastic buckle.

Always install a baby seat rear facing.

Blue markers indicate installation with a seat belt – blue is for babies.

Baby seats are not designed for long periods of sleep!

Do not place your baby in this seat wrapped in a blanket, rather place a blanket over the whole seat.

Baby seats can be taken out of the vehicle to carry your child in and can double up as a rocker or feeding chair.

At birth a baby's skull and spine configuration is not fully developed.

The soft fontanel is something we are all familiar with. The back and the horizontal angle of the seat is designed to protect baby's spine and neck during a collision.



# TODDLER SEATS

**Group 1** seats designed for toddlers from 9kg to 18kg.

Your child should be able to sit strong by now and will enjoy the more upright position. They want to see where you are going and interact with their world.

Have a **5 point harness and a metal buckle with a plastic casing.**

Rear facing till the age of 2 is first prize if your vehicle has the space and your seat belt is long enough.



Toddler seats recline for comfort when sleeping.

Red markers indicate forward facing installation - red is for rascals.

Toddler seats remain installed in the vehicle.

Your vehicle is not a child safe zone - you have to make it so with a car seat.

Children under the age of 13 should ride in the back seat.

The safest seating in the vehicle is at the back in the centre.

Never use a car seat where there are air bags. Airbags deploy at 350km/h and can seriously injure your child and even cause death.

Always install your car seat as per the directions in the manual.

## TEST YOURSELF

Can you sit with your hips against the back of the seat?

Do your knees bend comfortably at the edge of the seat?

Does the belt cross the centre of your shoulder and is the lap belt low, touching the tops of your legs?

Can you sit like this the entire trip?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, you need to keep using your booster.

# BOOSTER SEATS

**Group 2** designed for children from 18 kg or absolute minimum of 15 kg if you have a tall skinny child.

Your child is now strong enough to sit with a seat belt, but not tall enough yet.

Never use a booster seat with only a lap belt.

A belt adjusting booster seat with a back is advisable until your child has outgrown the highest adjustment of the seat. This is to give them maximum side impact protection.

Red markings indicate where the seat belt goes. Never allow your child to put the shoulder belt behind their backs or under their arm - it's very dangerous!

Booster seats raise your child so that they can see out of the window and bring the seat belt down to their shoulder height.

The shoulder belt must pass over the middle of their shoulder, away from the neck and across the chest. The lap belt must go over the lap and hips - never across the tummy.

The back of a good booster seat adjusts up with the growth of your child.

Once they have outgrown the highest adjustment of the Booster seat, your child should sit on a "bum" booster until they are 1.5M tall.

Seat belts are designed for adults and adults per definition is a person of 1.5 meters or taller.



## WHAT WE DO

Select your own car seat here for an affordable donation.

We will clean your car seats and give it a new lease on life.

We advise on the correct choice, installation and use of car seats.

We rent out car seats to keep our young visitors safe.

We work with likeminded partners towards road safety for our children.



## Wheel Well

FOR CHILDREN IN ROAD SAFETY



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