

# Forward-facing car seats



It is best to keep kids forward facing in a car seat with a harness as long as they are within the weight and height limits for the car seat. The harness in a forward-facing seat protects the child by contacting the strongest parts of the body and spreading crash forces over a wide area.

## Proper fit is key to safety



### Use forward-facing car seats correctly:

- Always check the car seat and vehicle owner's manual for the correct way to use and install.
- Follow all weight and height guidelines for the car seat. If your child has outgrown the seat, you may want to get a car seat that lets them stay in a forward-facing car seat longer.
- Once installed, the seat should move no more than one inch from side to side or front to back at the belt path.
- Do not use car seats that are old, expired or have been in a crash.

What comes next? An orange arrow pointing right.

Children's Wisconsin Booster and Car Seat Clinic  
To schedule an appointment, call Central Scheduling  
(877) 607-5280. (Se habla Español)  
[chw.org/carseats](http://chw.org/carseats)

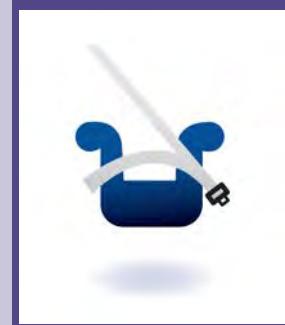
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Wisconsin

## Kids can move into a booster seat when:

They are at least four years of age and 40 pounds, and they have outgrown the weight and height limits of the forward-facing harness car seat. They also need to be mature enough to sit correctly in the booster seat for the entire ride. If these are not met, look for a new forward-facing car seat that goes to higher weights and heights to keep your child harnessed longer.

### Booster seats



Booster seats are an important step between the time when a child has outgrown a harness seat and is ready to sit using a seat belt only. They raise the child so the vehicle's lap and shoulder belt fits over the strongest parts of the child's body.

### Parenting tips for car seats:

- Riding in the back seat and in a car seat is required by law.
- Always using a car seat correctly makes a safe habit for children.
- Pull over if a child gets upset. It might be time for everyone to take a break.
- Praise kids when they are sitting in the car seat and belted correctly.
- Wear your seat belt. Children are more likely to buckle up if they see a parent or caregiver buckled up.
- Let others who drive your kids know that a car seat is a must.