Boost for Safety

Always use your forward-facing car seat to the maximum height or weight limit before moving your child to a booster seat.

Seat belts are made for adults, not children. Booster seats are a middle step between a car seat with a harness and a vehicle seat belt; they protect children who are too large for a car seat and too small for the vehicle seat belt. They "boost" the child so that the seat belt can fit properly across the strong bones of the body.



Skipping the booster seat step or moving to a booster seat too early is common, but also unsafe.

TRANSITIONING TO A BOOSTER SEAT

4yrs/40lbs

Children should be **at least age four** and **40 pounds** and are mature enough to sit in place for the whole ride.



Check weight and height requirements and instructions located on the booster seat label.



ALWAYS use a lap AND shoulder belt when placing your child in a booster seat.

Place the lap belt **low over your child's hips**. The shoulder belt must come **across the middle of the chest**, and not across the neck or face.



The shoulder belt should **never be worn under the arm or** behind the back.



When using a backless booster, the child MUST sit where a head restraint is available to prevent head and neck injuries.



Children should be in a booster seat until the seat belt fits them correctly - usually around 4'9". Because children vary in size, some children still need a booster seat at the age of 10 or 11.







Boost for Safety

Keep your child safe in a booster until their seat belt fits.

FROM BOOSTER TO SEAT BELT

Take the "Seat Belt Fit Test" to determine whether your child is ready to move to a seat belt. If your child doesn't pass all the steps, continue to use a booster seat.



SEAT BELT FIT TEST

A Seat Belt Fit Test is used to determine if the seat belt sits correctly on the child. Seat belt fit may be different with each vehicle and vehicle seats.



Scan this QR Code to watch the Fit Test video

1	Have your child sit in a back seat with their bottom and back against the vehicle's seat back.
2	If the child's knees bend at the seat's edge, go on. If not, the child must stay in a booster seat.
3	Buckle the seat belt. If the lap belt stays low on the hips, go on. If it rests on the stomach, the child must stay in a booster seat.
4	Look at the shoulder belt. If it lays on the collarbone and shoulder, go on. If it is on the face or neck, the child must remain in a booster seat. NEVER put the shoulder belt under the child's arm or behind the child's back. Do not allow children to play with the shoulder portion of a seat belt.
5	Can the child maintain the correct seating position with the shoulder belt on the shoulder and the lap belt low across the hips? If yes, the child has passed the Seat Belt Fit Test. If no, the child should return to a booster seat and retest in a couple months.



Children under 13-years-old should sit in the back seat.

Utah Law: All passengers must wear seat belts and children up to age 8 must be properly restrained in a car or booster seat. Children who are 4'9" before the age of 8 can be restrained by a vehicle lap/shoulder belt.

For more information on proper car seat and seat belt fit, go to Clicklt.utah.gov





