

11. Tighten and LOCK the vehicle seat belt according to directions found in the vehicle owner's manual.

- ❖ Check for tightness at the seat belt path.
- ❖ Allow no more than one inch of side-to-side or forward movement of the car seat.

12. If you have problems securing your car seat, don't take chances. Obtain and use any additional equipment necessary (such as locking clips, auxiliary buckles or tethers) to secure the seat belt properly.

For more information on child passenger safety in Pennsylvania, call
1-800-CAR BELT

85th Legislative District

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Child Passenger Safety



**DON'T TAKE SHORTCUTS
WHEN YOU'RE KEEPING
YOUR CHILDREN
SAFE IN THE CAR**

*Highlights from Pennsylvania's
Child Passenger Protection Law*

1. Infants always ride rear-facing in the back seat at no greater than a 45-degree recline. This enables the infant to maintain an open airway.

2. Infants must ride rear-facing until one year of age and at least 20 pounds. It is recommended that children be kept rear-facing to the highest rear-facing weight or height allowed by the car seat manufacturer.

3. NEVER place a rear-facing car seat in the front seat of an airbag-equipped vehicle with an active airbag. A rear-facing car seat may be used only if the airbag has an on/off switch and the switch is in the OFF position. If you're uncertain if a vehicle has airbags, take a moment to check the sun visor, dashboard and/or owner's manual.

4. Older toddlers and children up to 80 pounds can ride in front of an airbag only if properly protected.

Always:

- ❖ push the vehicle seat back as far as possible.
- ❖ use the harness according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- ❖ use the shoulder belt properly.



5. Children should be secured in a car seat with a harness until 40 pounds.

6. Place the car seat harness through the slots:

- ❖ at or below the shoulders for a rear-facing infant.
- ❖ at or above the shoulders for a forward-facing child.

7. The car seat harness should not allow any slack. **A snug harness:**

- ❖ lies in a relatively straight line without sagging.
- ❖ should not, however, be so tight as to press into a child's body.

8. All children who have outgrown their car seat should be properly restrained in a booster seat until they are at least 8 years old or until they are 4' 9" tall.

9. Children age 12 and under should ride properly restrained in the back seat.

10. Place the vehicle seat belt around or through the car seat exactly where the car seat manufacturer directs.

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