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KNOW THE NEW LAW FOR CHILD CAR SEATS

**FURTHER INFORMATION ON CHILD CAR SEATS** 

Learn more about child car seats by visiting www.rsa.ie/childsafetyincars, reading the 'CHILD SAFETY IN CARS' booklet or watching the 'CHILD SAFETY IN CARS' DVD.

Both the booklet and DVD are available FREE to order online at www.rsa.ie/childsafetyincars or by telephone LoCall 1890 50 60 80.





**Booklet** 

DVL

www.rsa.ie/childsafetyincars

## KNOW THE NEW LAW on child car seats

- New EU child safety protection laws have come into force making it compulsory for all children to travel in the correct child seat, booster seat or booster cushion
- Where safety belts have been fitted they must be worn
- Children under 3 years of age must not travel in a car or goods vehicle (other than a taxi) unless restrained in the correct child seat
- Children aged 3 years or over who are under 150cms in height and weighing less than 36 kilograms (i.e. generally children up to 11/12 years old) must use the correct child seat, booster seat or booster cushion when travelling in cars or goods vehicles
- Children over 3 years of age must travel in a rear seat in vehicles not fitted with safety belts
- Rearward-facing child car seats must **NEVER** be used in the front passenger seat of cars with an active airbag
- Child car seats must be in accordance with EU or United Nations-Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) standards
- Drivers have a legal responsibility to ensure passengers aged under 17 use the correct seat, booster seat, booster cushion or seatbelt

Ensuring a child is properly restrained in a child car seat can reduce injuries by a factor of 90-95% for rear-facing seats and 60% for forward-facing seats\*.

\*Source: AA Motoring Trust

www.rsa.ie/childsafetyincars

**ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO CHILD CAR SEATS** 

#### **Rearward-Facing Baby Seat**



Weight

For babies up to 13kgs (29lbs)

Approximate Age Range Birth to 12-15 months

Rearward-facing seats provide greater protection for the baby's head, neck and spine than forward-facing seats. So, it is best to keep your baby in a rearward-facing seat for as long as possible.

Only move them to a forward-facing seat once they have exceeded the maximum weight for the baby seat, or the top of their head is higher than the top of the seat.

#### **Forward-Facing Child Seat**



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Weight 9-18kgs (20-40lbs)

Approximate Age Range 9 months - 4 years

Only move your child to a forward-facing seat once they have exceeded the maximum weight for their rearward-facing seat, or the top of their head is higher than the top of the seat.

#### **Booster Seat**



Weight

15-25kgs (33-55lbs)

Approximate Age Range 4-6 years

Some booster seats are designed to be converted into a booster cushion by detaching the back rest.

#### **Booster Cushion**



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Weight 22-36kgs (48-79lbs)

Approximate Age Range 6-11/12 years

Booster cushions do not have an integral harness to hold the child in place. The adult seat belt goes around the child and the seat. So it is important that the seat belt is correctly adjusted.

The Road Safety Authority would like to thank RoSPA (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) for its permission to reproduce extracts from their 'child car seats' website www.childcarseats.org.uk

### TO CHILD CAR SEAT TO EXCUSE